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# CÒMHRAIDHEAN
# 'AN GAELIG 'S 'AM BEURLA.

LE ROIMH-RADH LE PROFESSOR BLACKIE.

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## CONVERSATIONS

IN

## GAELIC AND ENGLISH.

WITH PREFACE BY PROFESSOR BLACKIE.

*SECOND EDITION.*

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# NOTE.

This little book would most probably have never appeared in print but for the encouragement I had the honour to receive from Professor Blackie, who is so well known as an accomplished Gaelic scholar, and a warm advocate of Gaelic and its literature. It is now, with much diffidence, given to the public under his auspices. I hope that it will prove helpful to students of Gaelic, for whose use it is intended, and that some at least of its contents will find an echo in the breast of Highlanders generally, especially those of them living at a distance from their native glens and straths. As a first venture in the field of literature, and the first attempt at doing in a small way for Gaelic what has been so successfully done for the Continental languages, I hope that it will meet with some indulgence at the hands of the critics.

It only remains for me to add that to those who may desire a guide to help them in their efforts to pronounce Gaelic, &c., I cordially recommend *Practical Lessons in Gaelic*, by Donald C. Macpherson, an admirable little book, to be had from Messrs. Maclachlan and Stewart, Edinburgh.

THE AUTHOR.

## A FEW REMARKS ON THE STUDY OF GAELIC.

The Gaelic has generally been esteemed a very difficult language; and no doubt it has its peculiarities, which I shall mention presently; but the great hindrances in the way of its acquisition have lain rather in accidental circumstances than in intrinsic difficulty. The double fact that the upper classes in the Highlands, with a few honourable exceptions, do not speak the language of the people, and that it is always more difficult to hold converse with the lower and half educated, or altogether uneducated classes, than with the educated; this, conjoined with the want of a scientific apparatus of grammatical and lexicographical appliances such as exist in the classical languages, is apt to discourage learners, whose desire to make the acquisition receives no spur from any social necessity of making it. As almost all the common people in the Highlands now speak pretty tolerable English, and in fact are often more forward to speak it on common occasions than to use their mother-tongue, only those residents in the Land of Bens who have a special love for the people, and who delight to identify themselves with genuine Highland sentiment and tradition feel a motive strong enough to induce them to go through the labour of acquiring a new language which cannot boast of any very rich and varied literature to reward their exertions. And those few, as I know from experience, have at the very outset had their ardour sadly cooled by the want of a little book of idiomatic phrases and dialogues on common subjects, such as every

traveller on the Continent carries in his pocket, as the key to the vestibule of German, Italian, French, Russian, or other modern language. The conversational method is the method of nature; and the entire disuse of it in our great classical schools is one of the chief causes of the slowness and painfulness of the process by which Greek and Latin are acquired by our British youth.* The want of such a colloquial introduction to Gaelic will, I feel convinced, be felt no more after this little work, to which I feel honoured in having been requested to affix a few words of preface, shall have found its way into general circulation. The vocabulary which it contains may readily be increased by the perusal of the admirable dialogues in the *Caraid nan Gaidhael*, by the late Dr. Macleod, of St. Columba, Glasgow, and the Highland Tales, English and Gaelic, by J. F. Campbell (Edinburgh, 1860), to which from my own practice, I feel inclined to add the Gaelic translation of the *Pilgrim's Progress*, to be obtained with other Gaelic books from the publishers of this work, not forgetting, of course, the historical parts of the Old Testament, and the parables of the Gospels.

The strictly philological difficulties of the Gaelic language are of two kinds: those belonging to the vocabulary or material of the language, and those belonging to its phonic and syntactic genius. While in passing from English to French, the Englishman finds some seven-tenths of the words only old friends with new faces, in Gaelic, the inverse proportion is nearer the truth; out of ten words on which the tyro stumbles only three may bear any resemblance to his previous stock, and these three cannot always be recognised without going through a process of

* The conversational method, as applied to ancient Greek, I have endeavoured to introduce in my Greek and English Dialogues (London, Macmillan, 1871), and the same principle applied to modern Greek will be found in the work of Messrs. Vincent and Dickson (London, Macmillan, 1879).

philological induction, of which the majority of students cannot be supposed to be capable. It is of importance, however, that this induction should be attempted; for it will enable the learner to start with a certain stock of words, very slightly modified from what he already possesses. In order to enjoy this advantage, the learner has only to bear in mind the following simple principles:—(1) That *b* and *g* are only the flat or blunt forms of *p* and *k* or hard *c*; that *d* in the same way is the blunt form of *t*; that *v* is only a softer or vocalized form of *b*; and that *m* is a *b* with fully compressed lips and the breath sent gently through the nose. (2) That in all languages, the carelessness of hasty colloquy combines with the vocalic demands of music (and Gaelic has always been mainly a sung language) in smoothing away consonants in certain positions and presenting the word in a curtailed shape; and this either at the end, as when *tho'* stands for *though*, or at the beginning as when *sample* comes from *example*, or at the middle as when *Père* comes from *Pater*, and *Mère* from *Mater*. (3) That in many languages the pure sound of the consonant is apt to be modified by the addition of a breathing or aspiration, which compound is often marked by the original consonant with the spirant letter added; as when *th* in English or *θ* in Greek appears as the product of an aspiration following the original dental consonant. In the same way the Latin *c* or *k* is softened down to *ch* in Gaelic, as when *deach* stands for *decem* and *each* for *equus*, a horse. (4) In comparing languages, the student must bear in mind that the flexional terminations, as the *us* in *bonus*, are no radical part of the word, and must be discounted. With these principles in his head, the student of Gaelic will in a very short time easily recognise old friends in a number of Gaelic roots, which at first blush may not reveal their parentage to the unpractised eye. Thus, *mios*, a month, will at once be

seen to be identical with *mensis; gabhar*, a goat, with *caper; beatha*, life, with *vita; athar* with *pater* by the dropping of the initial *p* which takes place also in *lan* = *plenus*, and some other roots. A classified list of these transmuted words with their cognates in English, Latin, or German, made, as he picks them up in reading, will materially aid the progress of the student.*

But the great difficulty in Gaelic lies exactly where foreigners find it in English, viz., in the pronunciation. Here the main thing to be noted is that, as in our English words *though*, *plough*, &c., the final consonant, having been first softened by the aspiration, at last falls off altogether; so that as a general rule final *gh* or *dh* in Gaelic hardly ever makes any sensible impression on the ear. Likewise in the middle of a word, between two vowels, *gh* and *dh* are habitually softened off, as in the English proper name *Vaughan;* so that *gabhar*, caper, becomes *gour*, as in *Ardgour*, and other well-known names in Celtic topography. To an Englishman this should certainly not appear strange, delighting as he does in *high*, *sigh*, *thigh*, and other such evanishments of the final consonant of his Saxon roots. But there is a euphonic peculiarity in all the Celtic languages to which neither the Englishman nor any of his Teutonic congeners finds an analogy in his mother tongue, and which, unless firmly grappled with at the outset, will be a cause of constant annoyance to him in the course of his linguistic progress. This peculiarity consists in the habitual modification, or, in some cases, complete obliteration, of the initial consonant of the following word by the contagious influence of the long final vowel of the preceding word. Thus *truaighe* means *woe*; but when in the common exclamation *mo thruaighe* — *woe*

* Those who have leisure and inclination to pursue Gaelic Etymology scientifically, will find important aid in *Celtic Studies* by *Ebel*, English by *Sullivan* (London, Williams & Norgate, 1863).

*is me!* the long vowel of *mo* = *mine* immediately precedes, the *t* vanishes altogether, and the pronunciation is *mo chroóai*. So after *gle*, very, *math*, good, becomes *mhath*, i.e., *vah; mh* in Gaelic being equivalent to our *v*. This softening of the initial consonant takes place also in the common concord of adjective and substantive, as when *mor*, *big*, becomes *mhor* when joined to a feminine substantive, in the familiar *Skerry vore* = the big reef. The only way to get over this difficulty is persistently and emphatically from the very first to pronounce all words subject to this change loudly and distinctly in both ways. Thus *tigh*, a house, pronounced *tie;* but *mo thigh*, pronounced *mo high*, my house; and this prefix must be fixed in the ear by repetition as an essential part of the word. A similar method will remove the difficulty felt by so many students in reference to the gender of substantives in German. Instead of the single *buch*, a *book*, let *das buch*, *the book*, be firmly fixed in the ear emphatically from the beginning; and in this way the gender in German, or the initial modification in Gaelic, will be learned as easily as the change of terminational syllables in the cases of Greek and Latin nouns.

I have only to add that in a language where pronunciation and spelling differ so much as in Gaelic, no person who can procure one should commence the study without the familiar aid of a good teacher, or, if possible, without the best aid—that of residence for a few months in some remote Highland district. To those who can do neither, MacAlpine's pronouncing Dictionary may confidently be recommended.

Residents and travellers in the Highlands ought also to omit no opportunity of catechising the natives, generally well informed on this point, on the significance of the names of districts and places as they occur. These names being, in nine cases out of ten, pictorial or descriptive in their character,

will, when properly explained, perform the double service of impressing the features of the scenery permanently on the mind of the traveller, and of enriching his vocabulary of the language to an extent of which only a living experience could give him a conception.

College, Edinburgh,
*1st June, 1880.*

# CÒMHRAIDHEAN GÀIDHEALACH.

## AN STOIRM, THE STORM.

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| Ciamar a tha 'chuideachd mu'n ghealbhan ? | How is the company around the fire ? |
| An sibh a th'ann, a Dhòmhnuill ? | Is it you, Donald ? |
| 'S fhad' o'n Chunnaic sinn sibh. | It is a long time since we saw you. |
| Ciod a bha 'g 'ur cumail ? | What was keeping you ? |
| Nach robh mi 'n Glascho o'n bha mi 'n so mu dheireadh ! | Was I not in Glasgow since I was here last ! |
| Ciod a chuir a Ghlascho sibh ? | What sent you to Glasgow ? |
| Innsidh mi sin duit. | I will tell you that. |
| Bha mi aig banais mo mhic, Seumas. | I was at the wedding of my son, James. |
| 'S math an gnothuch air an robh sibh. | You were on a good errand. |
| Cha d'thug e tàmh dhomh gus an do gheall mi dol ann. | He gave me no rest till I promised to go to it. |
| Ciamar a thàinig am baile-mòr ruibh ? | How did the city agree with you ? |
| Cha d'thàinig ach meadhonach. | It agreed with me but indifferently. |
| Ciod a th'agaibh 'n a aghaidh ? | What have you against it ? |
| Tha de dh'ùinich 's de dh'ùpraid ann 's nach mòr nach do chuir e mo cheann air aimhreit. | There is so much bustle and confusion in it that it nearly put my head wrong. |
| An robh sibh ann an carbad na smùide ? | Were you in the train ? |
| Cha robh 's cha bhi. | I was not, and will not be. |
| Tha mi taingeil gu'n d'fhuair mi air m'ais do shàmhchair a'ghlinne. | I am thankful that I have got back to the quiet of the glen. |
| Nach fiadhaich an t-sìd a th'againn ! | What wild weather we have ! |
| Cha chuimhne leam na's fiadhaiche aig an àm so 'n bhliadhna. | I do not recollect wilder at this season of the year. |
| An cuala sibh mu'n sgiorradh bhrònach a thachair aig drochaid Thatha air oidhche di-dòmhnuich ? | Have you heard of the sad accident that occurred at the Tay Bridge on Sunday night ? |
| Cha chuala mi focal dheth. | I have not heard a word of it. |
| 'N uair a bha'n stoirm aig a h-àirde thuit an drochaid. | When the storm was at its height the bridge fell. |

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| Tha mi 'n dochas nach robh carbad-smùide 'dol thairis orra aig an àm. | I hope that a train was not passing over it at the time. |
| Bha, agus thuit e leis an drochaid. | There was, and it fell with the bridge. |
| An do chailleadh gach neach a bha 's a' charbad ? | Were all that were in the train lost ? |
| Chailleadh. | They were. |
| Ni Maith 'g ar teasairginn ! | May the Good Being preserve us ! |
| Is cinnteach mi gu'm bi cunntas cianail againn mu challdachd aig fairge. | I am sure we shall have sad accounts of losses at sea. |
| Cha bheag na thachair dheth sin air a' gheamhradh so cheana. | The losses that have already occurred at sea this winter are not inconsiderable. |
| Chuala mi gu'n d'thugadh lomsgriob air coille 'n Dùin. | I have heard that a clean sweep was made of Dun wood. |
| Tha iad a' deanamh dheth gu'n do chuireadh gu làr mu mhìle craobh. | It is estimated that about a thousand trees were brought to the ground. |
| An d'rinneadh mòran dolaidh 'am baile nam bùithean ? | Was much damage done in the town of shops ? |
| Chaidh uinneagan a bhriseadh an sud 's an so, mullaichean luidheirean a leagail, 'us corra bhàta 'chur fodha. | Windows were broken here and there, chimney tops were knocked down, and a few boats were sunk. |
| 'N e sin uil' e ? | Is that all ? |
| Bha'n t-sràid a tha ri taobh a' chladaich air a cladhach, 's bha'm balla 'bha 'cumail taice rithe air an taobh a mach air a bhriseadh. | The street along the shore was ploughed up, and the wall that supported it on the outside was broken. |
| Ciamar a chaidh dhuibh-fhéin ? | How did it fare with yourselves ? |
| Cha n-fhaod sinn a bhi 'gearan. | We must not complain. |
| Chuala mi gu'n do leagadh aon de na tighean agaibh. | I heard that one of your houses was knocked down. |
| Cha do leagadh ; ach chaidh an tubhadh a thoirt bhàrr mullach an t-sabhail. | It is not so ; but the thatch was taken off the roof of the barn. |
| Nach mìorailteach gu'n do thearninn an tigh-còmhnuidh ? | Is it not wonderful that the dwelling-house escaped ? |
| Bha de thuramanaich air tacan 's gu'n do shaoil mi gu'm biodh e nuas mu 'r cinn. | It rocked so much for a short time that I thought that it would fall about our heads. |
| Ciamar a dh' fhairich thu aig an àm dheuchainneach sin ? | How did you feel during these trying moments ? |
| Cha n-urrainn domh na dh'fhairich mi 'chur 'an cainnt a 's freagaraiche na tha 's na rannan a leanas :— | I cannot express what I felt in more appropriate language than that of the following verses :— |

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| "Dh'éirich an fhairge 's shéid a' ghaoth,<br>'Us b' aobhar oillt an fhuaim<br>Do na h-uile aon 's an eadhar fhaoin<br>Air faontradh feadh a' chuain. | "The curling waves, with awful roar,<br>A little boat assailed;<br>And pallid fear's distracting power<br>O'er all on board prevailed; |
| Ach mac an sgiobair, balachan maoth,<br>Chual e gun gheilt an toirm;<br>Fiamh aiteis àird gu'n robh 'n a ghnùis,<br>Gun smuairean air roimh 'n stoirm. | Save one, the captain's darling child,<br>Who steadfast viewed the storm,<br>And cheerful, with composure, smiled<br>At danger's threatening form. |
| Dh'fheòraich a h-aon de'n sgioba dheth<br>Cionnus bha e cho ciùin,<br>'Cha n-'eil eagal dhomh-sa,' fhreagair e,<br>'Tha m' athair air an stiùir.'" | 'And sport'st thee thus,' a seaman cried,<br>'While terrors overwhelm?'<br>'Why should I fear,' the boy replied,<br>'My father's at the helm!'" |
| Tha na rannan drùiteach sin air tiom' a thoirt air mo chridhe; 's éigin domh feasgar math fhàgail agaibh agus dol dachaidh. | These affecting verses have melted my heart; I must bid you good evening and go home. |
| Cha ghluais sibh ceum gus am faigh sibh 'ur cuid de thràth an fheasgair. | You shall not move a step till you get your share of the evening meal. |
| Tha fiughair aca rium aig an tigh. | They expect me at home. |
| Ma tha biodh; thoir dhomh do bhoineid. | If they do, let them; give me your bonnet. |
| Ma tha Màiri 'us thusa air an aon sgeul cha n-'eil math dhomhsa cur 'n 'ur n-aghaidh. | If Mary and you are of the same mind there is no use in my opposing you. |

## TUATHANACHAS, FARMING.

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| Ciamar a tha sibh uile 's an tigh so? | How are you all in this house? |
| Tha sinn gu math, gu'n robh math agaibh. | We are well, thank you. |
| Ciamar a tha sibh-fhéin 's na bhuineas duibh? | How are you yourself and those belonging to you? |
| Cha n-'eil aobhar gearain againn. | We have no cause to complain. |
| Thigibh a stigh 'us leigibh 'ur n-anail. | Come in and rest yourself. |
| So dhuibh cathair taobh an teine. | Here is a chair for you beside the fire. |
| 'S ann agaibh-fhéin a tha'n gealbhan suilbhir 's a' chagailt sgiolta. | You have indeed a cheerful fire and a tidy hearth. |

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| Tha 'mhòine pailte 's cha n-'eil caomhnadh orra. | Peats are abundant and are not spared. |
| 'S mòr an t-sochair am pailteas connaidh. | Abundance of fuel is a great privilege. |
| An d'thàinig sibh o'n tigh an diugh? | Have you come from home to-day ? |
| Thàinig. | I have. |
| Cha bheag an t-astar a choisich sibh. | You have walked no inconsiderable distance. |
| Tha e mu chòig mìle fichead. | It is about twenty-five miles. |
| Bithidh sibh sgìth. | You are tired. |
| Cha n-urrainn domh a ràdh nach 'eil. | I cannot say that I am not. |
| Am bheil thu 'n sin, a Mhòr ? | Are you there, Saradh. |
| 'D é b' àill leibh ? | What is your will, please ? |
| Am bheil a bhanarach a' bleoghan a' chruidh ? | Is the dairymaid milking the cows ? |
| Tha. | She is. |
| Falbh a mach agus abair rithe 'n soitheach so 'lìonadh. | Go out and tell her to fill this dish. |
| Falbhaidh. | I will. |
| Cùrainnich am bòrd, a Cheit. | Cover the table, Kate. |
| C'àit am bheil an t-anart-bùird ? | Where is the table-cloth ? |
| Gheibh thu e 's a' chiste sin thall. | You will find it in the chest over there. |
| An toir mi nuas an t-aran-cruineachd 's an t-aran-coirce ? | Shall I bring down the wheaten and oaten bread ? |
| Bheir, agus an t-ìm 's a' mhulachag chàise. | Yes, and the butter and cheese. |
| Na caomhnaibh na th' air 'ur beulaobh ; 's e 'ur beatha. | Do not spare what is before you ; you are welcome. |
| Tapadh leibh. | Thank you. |
| 'S i 'mhiu ùr a th' agaibh 's an aran so. | It is the new meal that you have in this bread. |
| 'S i ; fhuair sinn as a' mhuileann i air di-màirt. | Yes ; we got it from the mill on Tuesday. |
| 'N e so a' cheud deasachadh a bh' agaibh dhi ? | Is this the first baking that you have had of it ? |
| 'S e. | Yes. |
| Tha i fìor ghrinn. | It is very fine. |
| Bu chòir dhi 'bhi sin ; oir cha n-fhaca mi riamh bàrr coirce 'b'fheàrr na bh'againn am bliadhna. | It ought to be so ; for I never saw a better crop of oats than we had this year. |
| Cia meud mulan a th' agaibh 's an iolainn ? | How many stacks have you in the stack-yard ? |
| Tha sèa-deug againn. | We have sixteen. |
| Am bi pailteas fodair agaibh do'n chrodh fad a' gheamhraidh 's an earrarch ? | Will you have plenty of fodder for the cattle during winter and spring ? |

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| Tha mi 'smuaineachadh gu'm bi. | I think we shall. |
| So fear an tighe 'tighinn. | Here is the man of the house coming. |
| 'S mi 'tha toilicht' 'ur faicinn. | I am very glad to see you. |
| Tha greis o'n nach robh sibh 's a' chearn so. | There is some time since you were in this quarter. |
| Tha dlùth air bliadhn' ann. | There is nearly a year. |
| An d'thug sibh sgeul ùr sam bith a nuas as a' ghleann ? | Have you brought any fresh news down from the glen ? |
| Cha d'thug ach gu bheil do charaid, Alastair mòr, gu slàn, fallain. | I have not, except that your friend, big Alastair, is perfectly well. |
| Am bheil guth aige air sgrìob a ghabhail an rathad so ? | Has he any word of taking a trip in this direction ? |
| Cha n-fhiosrach mi gu bheil. | I am not aware that he has. |
| Ciamar a tha 'n t-Uachdaran ùr a' tighinn ruibh ? | How do you like the new laird ? |
| Tha gu ro mhath. | Very well. |
| Am bheil e aoidheil, bàigheil ris an t-sluagh ? | Is he affable and kind to the people ? |
| Tha e, agus tha e 'toirt misneich 'us cothruim do gach duine onarach, dìchiollach air an oighreachd. | He is, and he gives encouragement and fair play to every honest and industrious man on the estate. |
| Is dual da sin ; 's e mac an deagh athar e. | That is hereditary to him ; he is the son of a good father. |
| Chuireadh e iongantas ort an dragh a tha e 'gabhail leis an sgoil. | The trouble he takes with the school would surprise you. |
| Cha n-'eil ceithir-là-deug 's a' bhliadhna nach 'eil e 'g a taoghal ma bhios e aig an tigh. | There is not a fortnight in the year that he does not visit it if he be at home. |
| Am bheil am buachaill a stigh ? | Is the herd within ? |
| Tha mi 'n so. | I am here. |
| A mach thu do 'n t-sabhal 's thoir ultach cheannagan do'n bhàthaich airson a' chruidh. | Out with you to the barn and bring a bundle of wisps to the byre for the cattle. |
| An e crodh Gallda no Gàidhealach a th' agaibh ? | Whether is it Lowland or Highland cattle that you have ? |
| 'S e crodh Gallda a th' againn air a' bhaile so 'us crodh Gàidhealach air a' bhail' eile. | We have Lowland cattle on this farm and Highland cattle on the other farm. |
| 'D é 'bhios sibh a' deanamh leis a' bhainne ? | What do you do with the milk ? |
| Tha sinn 'g a chur do'n Oban a h-uile là. | We send it to Oban every day. |
| Cia meud pinnt a th'aig gach mart ? | How many pints has each cow ? |
| Mu chòig pinnt. | About five pints. |
| Thig sin gu mòran airgid aig deireadh na bliadhna. | That will amount to much money at the end of the year. |

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| Tha sinn taingeil e 'bhi againn mu choinneamh a' mhàil. | We are thankful to have it for the rent. |
| Cia meud laogh a bhios sibh a' togail ? | How many calves do you rear ? |
| An t-iomlan de na laoigh Ghàidhealach agus a dhà no trì de na laoigh Ghallda. | All the Highland calves and two or three of the Lowland ones. |
| 'D é 'bhios sibh a' deanamh leis a' chòrr ? | What do you do with the rest ? |
| 'S àbhaist duinn an reic ris an fheòladair. | We are in the habit of selling them to the butcher. |
| Co 'cheannaich na gamhn' agaibh am bliadhna ? | Who bought your stirks this year ? |
| Chuala mi 'ainm ach cha n-'eil cuimhn' agam air. | I heard his name but do not remember it. |
| 'S coltach gur h-e Gall no Sasunnach a bh' ann. | It is likely that he was either a Lowlander or an Englishman. |
| Fhuair mise airgiod ullamh orra 's tha mi coma. | I received ready money for them and do not care. |
| Cia meud each a tha sibh a' cumail ? | How many horses do you keep ? |
| Trì. | Three. |
| Am bheil caoraich agaibh ? | Have you sheep ? |
| Tha. | We have. |
| 'D é 'n seorsa 'th 'agaibh ? | What kind have you ? |
| Caoraich Ghallda. | Lowland sheep. |
| 'D é phrìs a bhios a' chlòimh am bliadhna ? | What price will the wool bring this year ? |
| Cha n-'eil fhios agam ; tha i 'g éiridh. | I do not know ; it is rising. |
| Am bheil na h-uain agaibh math ? | Are your lambs good ? |
| Tha iad mar nach olc. | They are pretty fair. |
| Am bheil thu dol a ghabhail aont' ùr de 'n bhaile ? | Are you going to take a new lease of the farm ? |
| Cha n-'eil an aont' a th' agam air ruith a mach fhathast. | My present lease has not yet expired. |
| An d'fhuair thu 'm màl a nuas ? | Have you got the rent lowered ? |
| Cha d'fhuair, 's cha n-'eil dùil agam ris. | I have not, and do not expect it. |
| An téid agad air cumail air d'aghaidh ? | Can you manage to hold out ? |
| Feumaidh mi 'bhi strì ris. | I must strive to do so. |
| Buaidh 'us piseach leat, 'fhir mo chridhe. | May success and prosperity attend you, my dear fellow. |

## IASGACH AIR A'MHUIR, SEA-FISHING.

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| An robh sibh ag iasgach an raoir ? | Were you fishing last night ? |
| Bha. | We were. |
| C' àit an robh sibh ? | Where were you ? |

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| Bha sinn aig a' Charraig. | We were at the Carraig. |
| An robh gabhail mhath air an iasg? | Were the fish taking well? |
| Is ainmic a chunnaic mi na 's fheàrr. | I have seldom seen them take better. |
| Cia meud a ghlac sibh? | How many did you catch? |
| Seachd ceud. | Seven hundred. |
| Cha robh sibh 'n 'ur tàmh. | You were not idle. |
| Bha sinn tacan 'g an toirt a stigh cho luath 's a b'urrainn sinn. | We were for a while taking them in as fast as we could. |
| Cia meud agaibh a bha 's a' bhàta? | How many of you were in the boat? |
| Ceathrar. | Four. |
| Bha triùir ag iasgach 'us aon a' fannadh, nach robh? | There were three fishing and one rowing slowly, were there not? |
| Tha sibh ceart. | You are right. |
| 'N e piocach no sgadan a bha sibh a' faotainn? | Whether was it seath or herring that you were catching? |
| Sgadan. | Herring. |
| An robh iad a' cluich air uachdar an uisge? | Were they playing on the surface of the water? |
| 'S iad a bha sin; bha'n fhairge mar gu'm b'ann air ghoil le'n cluich. | That they were; the sea was as it were boiling with their playing. |
| 'N e na slatan no'n lìon a bh'agaibh? | Whether was it the rods or the net that you had? |
| Na slatan; cha robh an lìon deas againn. | The rods; we had not the net ready. |
| 'D é 'n seòrsa maghair a bh' agaibh? | What kind of bait had you? |
| Bha maghar de dh'ite na faoilinn. | A bait of the gull's feather. |
| Cia meud maghar is àbhaist a bhi air gach slait? | How many baits is it usual to have on each rod? |
| Corr uair aon 'us corr uair dithis. | Sometimes one and sometimes two. |
| An sibh-fhéin a bhios a' stalcadh nan dubhan? | Do you dress the hooks yourselves? |
| 'S sinn. | We do. |
| Am faca sibh muca-mara? | Did you see whales? |
| Bha té mhòr 'n 'ar cuideachd fad an fheasgair. | A large one kept us company all the evening. |
| 'D é mheudachd a bh' innte? | What size was it? |
| Tha mi cinnteach gu'n robh i dà fhichead troidh air fad. | I am sure that it was forty feet long. |
| An robh i dlùth dhuibh? | Was it near you? |
| Bha i aon uair cho dlùth 's gu'm faodamaid leum air a druim. | It was once so near that we might have leaped on its back. |
| 'S math nach robh —— còmhla ruibh. | It is well that —— were not with you. |
| Carson? | Why? |
| Mu'n abradh tu seachd bhiodh iad a mach a dhannsadh orra. | Before you could say seven they would have been out to dance upon it. |

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| Tog de d' sgeig, Fhionnlaidh ghéir. | Give over your off-taking, sharp Finlay. |
| 'N e sgeig a thubhairt thu? Bi taingeil nach d' éirich na 's miosa. | Is it off-taking you said? Be thankful that worse has not happened. |
| Ciamar sin? | How that? |
| 'N e nach 'eil thu taingeil nach do smùid i 's an adhar thu, | Is it the case that you are not thankful that it did not dash you into the air, |
| (Cha chreid mi-fhéin nach 'eil an duin' air mhearaichinn) | (I do believe that the man is crazy) |
| Agus nach do shluig i thu 'n déigh sin? | And that it did not swallow you afterwards? |
| Cha n-'eil math a bhi bruidhinn ruit-sa. | There is no use in talking to you. |
| Cha n-'eil. | There is not. |
| C'uin a dh'fhàg sibh thall? | When did you leave the other side? |
| Mu naoi uairean an raoir. | About nine o'clock last night. |
| Am b'fheudar dhuibh iomram dhachaidh? | Had you to row home? |
| Cha b'fheudar; dh'éirich a' ghaoth 's chuir sinn na siùil rithe. | We had not; the wind rose and we set the sails. |
| Bha sgairt mhath ghaoith' againn-ne mu dheich uairean. | We had a smart breeze about ten o'clock. |
| Cha b'ann na bu luige 'bha i againn-ne 'mach. | It was not weaker with us outside. |
| An robh dad de dh'fhairge agaibh? | Had you anything of a sea? |
| Bha i 'n a meallaibh mu'n d' ràinig sinn Cearara. | It ran high before we reached Kerara. |
| Co' bh' air an stiùir? | Who was at the helm? |
| Bha Iain Dheòrsa. | John (son) of George. |
| Cha n-amadan a stiùras bàta ri sìd ghairbh. | He who can steer a boat in rough weather is no fool. |
| Fàilt' oirbh, a mhnathan uaisle. | Hail to you, ladies. |
| An robh sibhs' ag iasgach? | Were you fishing? |
| Tha sinn dìreach air tilleadh uaithe. | We have just returned from it. |
| Tha mi 'n dochas gu'n do shoirbhich leibh. | I hope that you have succeeded. |
| Fhuair sinn fichead cudainn agus deich bodaich-ruadha. | We got twenty cuddies and ten codlings. |
| B'fhiach e'n t-saothair dhuibh dol a mach. | It was worth your while to go out. |
| An d'fheuch sibh riamh iasgach bhàrr nan creag? | Did you ever try fishing off the rocks. |
| Cha d'fheuch. | We never did. |
| 'S iomadh làn mùrlaig a fhuair mise air an dòigh sin. | Many a basketful I got in that way. |
| Ciamar a théid sinn m' a dhéibhinn? | How shall we set about it? |

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| Cha n-'eil agaibh ach àite coltach fhaotainn agus an driamlach a thilgeil. | You have only to find a likely place and cast the line. |
| 'S ann a dh'fheumas sinn 'fheuchainn feasgar éigin. | We must try it some evening. |
| Tha mi 'cluinntinn gu bheil sibh teòm' air iomram. | I hear that you are expert at rowing. |
| Théid againn air ràmh iomairt. | We can manage to ply an oar. |
| Am bheil e fìor gu'n no bhris sibh putag an là roimhe ? | Is it true that you broke an oar-pin the other day ? |
| Tha, 's chuir sinn cas *umbrella* 'n a h-àite. | It is, and we put the handle of an umbrella in its place. |
| Mo bheannachd oirbh. | My blessing upon you. |
| Cuiribh na ràimh, an tobhta, agus an taoman ann an àite tèaruinte. | Put the oars, the rowing bench, and the baler in a safe place. |
| Slàn leibh air an àm. | Farewell for the present. |

## LÀ, A DAY.

### A' MHADUINN, THE MORNING.

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| Am bheil brath idir agad air éirigh ? | Do you intend to get up ? |
| 'D é 'n uair a tha e ? | What o'clock is it ? |
| Tha e fichead mionaid a dhìth air de naoi uairean. | It wants twenty minutes of nine o'clock. |
| An d'fhuair thu cadal math ? | Have you slept well ? |
| Cha do dhùisg mi o'n chaidh mi 'luidhe gus an d'thàinig sibh a stigh. | I did not waken since I lay down till you came in. |
| Bithidh a' bhraiceas deas 'an ùine ghoirrid. | Breakfast will be ready in a short time. |
| Am bheil am pailteas uisge, sèopuinn, 'us shearadairean 's an t-seòmar ? | Is there plenty of water, soap, and towels in the room ? |
| Tha. | There is. |
| Am bu mhath leat thu-fhéin fhailceadh ? | Would you wish to have a bath ? |
| Bu mhath. | I would. |
| Tha 'n seòmar-failcidh làmh riut. | The bath-room is near you. |
| Bithibh cho math 's an dorus aige fhàgail fosgailte. | Be so good as leave its door open. |
| Ni mi sin. | I will do so. |
| 'D é 'n seòrsa là 'th' ann ? | What kind of day is it ? |
| Là grianach, le oiteig de ghaoith an ear. | A sunny day, with a breeze of east wind. |
| An cual thu riamh— | Did you ever hear— |
| "Gaoth a deas teas 'us toradh, | "Wind from the south (denotes) heat and produce, |

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| Gaoth an iar iasg 'us bainne, | Wind from the west (denotes) fish and milk, |
| Gaoth a tuath fuachd 'us gaillionn, | Wind from the north (denotes) cold and storm, |
| Gaoth an ear meas air chrannaibh"?* | Wind from the east (denotes) fruit on trees"? |
| 'S math is aithne dhomh na facail sin, ach 's fhad' o'n chuala mi iad. | I know these words well, but it is long since I heard them. |

A'BHRAICEAS, BREAKFAST.

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| Iarramaid beannachadh. | Let us ask a blessing. |
| Co dhiù 's e *tea* no *coffee* 'ghabhas tu? | Whether will you take tea or coffee? |
| Gabhaidh mi *tea*, ma 's e 'ur toil e. | I will take tea, if you please. |
| An gabh thu siùcar 'us uachdar leatha? | Will you take sugar and cream with it? |
| Gabhaidh. | I will. |
| An gabh thu ubh an toiseach no iasg no muc-fheoil chrochte. | Whether will you take an egg first or fish or pork ham? |
| Gabhaidh mi ubh an toiseach. | I will take an egg first. |
| Am bheil mòran chearc agaibh? | Have you many hens? |
| Tha mu dhà fhichead againn. | We have about forty. |
| C'àit am bheil sibh a' faotainn nam breac? | Where do you get the trout? |
| 'S an abhuinn ud shìos. | In the river down yonder. |
| 'D é'n t-aran a ghabhas tu? | What bread will you take? |
| Gabhaidh mi 'h-aon de na breacagan cruineachd. | I will take one of the flour scones. |
| Co dhiù 'ghabhas tu ìm ùr no ìm sàillte? | Whether will you take fresh or salted butter? |
| Mhòlainn duit a h-aon de na bonnaich-isbein. | I would recommend to you one of the sausage bannocks. |
| An toir sibh dhomh-sa sliseag de'n mhuic-fheoil chrochte, 'athair? | Will you give me a slice of pork ham, father? |
| Geàrr air do shon fhéin i, 'ille. | Cut it for yourself, lad. |
| Ciamar a tha thu 'dol a chaitheamh an là, 'Ailein. | How are you going to spend the day, Allan? |
| Tha mi 'dol do'n mhonadh a shealg. | I am going to the hill to shoot (lit. hunt). |
| 'D é 'tha thusa 'dol a dheanamh, a Sheònaid? | What are you going to do, Janet? |
| Tha mi 'dol a sgrìobhadh litrichean an toiseach. | I am going to write letters first. |
| 'D ê 'tha thu 'dol a dheanamh an déigh sin? | What are you going to do after that? |

* "An old observation on the weather on New Year's Eve."

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| Tha mi 'dol a leubhadh. | I am going to read. |
| 'D é 'n leabhar a tha thu 'dol a leubhadh ? | What book are you going to read ? |
| Eachdraidh na H-Alba. | The History of Scotland. |
| 'S e sin a 's fheàrr na sgeulachdan spleadhach. | That is better than fictitious tales. |
| 'D é 'tha sibh-fhêin 'dol a dheanamh, a mhàthair ? | What are you going to do yourself, mother ? |
| Tha mi 'dol do'n bhaile air ghnothuch. | I am going to town on business. |
| 'D e 'tha sibhse 'dol a dheanamh, 'athair ? | What are you going to do, father ? |
| Thi mi 'dol a chumail mòid air duine truagh a tha iad a cur as a leth gu'n robh e 'sealg gun chead. | I am going to hold a court on a poor man who is accused of poaching. |

AN DÌNNEIR, DINNER.

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| Ciamar a thàinig thu air d'aghaidh 's a' mhonadh ? | How did you get on in the hill ? |
| Mharbh mi sèa eòin ruadha agus dà mhaighich. | I killed six grouse and two hares. |
| 'S math a fhuaras thu. | You have done well. |
| Am faca tu féidh ? | Did you see deer ? |
| Chunnaic mi damh briagh air mullach a' mhonaidh. | I saw a fine stag on the top of the hill. |
| An robh e mar astar urchair dhuit ? | Was it within gun-shot range of you ? |
| Bha sàr chothrom agam air a thilgeil na'm biodh peileirean agam. | I was very favourably situated for shooting him if I had had balls. |
| Am bheil thu sgìth ? | Are you tired ? |
| Cha n-urrainn domh a ràdh gu bheil. | I cannot say that I am. |
| 'S iongantach leam sin. | I am surprised at that. |
| Bha 'n t-àileadh cho beothachail 's nach do sgìthich an t-saothair mi. | The air was so bracing that the exertion did not fatigue me. |
| Tha 'n dìnneir air a' bhòrd. | Dinner is on the table. |
| Thoir thusa sìos bean-an-tighe, 'Ailein. | Take you down the lady of the house, Allan. |
| Tha 'n staidhir farsuing 'us furasd' a thèarnadh. | The stair is broad and easily descended. |
| Is eireachdail na cabair-fêidh a th' air a' bhalla. | The deer horns on the wall are handsome. |
| Tha dithis dhiubh air am bheil dà mheur dheug. | There are two of them with twelve points. |
| An gabh thu brot ? | Will you take broth ? |

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| Gabhaidh, gu'n robh math agaibh. | I will, thank you. |
| An d'fhuair sibh 'ur gnothuch a dheanamh ? | Did you get your business done ? |
| Fhuair. | Yes. |
| Am faigh sibh 's a' bhaile gach goireas a bhios a dhìth oirbh ? | Can you get in the town every convenience that you need ? |
| Gheibh ; ach 's àbhaist duinn na h-uibhir de nithe fhaighinn a Glascho. | Yes ; but we are in the habit of getting several things from Glasgow. |
| An gabh thu crioman de 'n bhradan? | Will you take a bit of salmon ? |
| Thoir am buntàta 's an t-ìm leaghte an so. | Bring here the potatoes and melted butter. |
| Tha 'm bradan air ùr-thoirt as an abhuinn. | The salmon is fresh from the river. |
| Gabh gloine fìona. | Take a glass of wine. |
| Theagamh gur fheàrr leat uisge-beatha. | Perhaps you prefer whisky. |
| Gabhaidh mi fìon. | I will take wine. |
| Leig leam sliseag de 'n mhairt-fheoil so 'chur 'ad iounsuidh. | Allow me to send you a slice of this beef. |
| Cha d'fheuch mi riamh feòil a 's blasda 's a 's maotha. | I never tasted sweeter and tenderer beef. |
| An gabh thu nis beagan de 'n mhuilt-fheoil ? | Will you now take some of the mutton ? |
| Tha mi buidheach. | I am satisfied. |
| An gabh thu làn spàine de'n bhiadh mhilis so ? | Will you take a spoonful of this pudding ? |
| An gabh thu càise ? | Will you take cheese ? |
| An gabh thu ubhal no *orange ?* | Whether will you take an apple or an orange ? |
| 'S fheàrr leam fìon-dhearcan. | I prefer grapes. |
| Gabh gloine de dh'fhìon dearg. | Take a glass of port. |
| Cuir mu'n cuairt am botul, a Chailein. | Send round the bottle, Colin. |
| 'S fheàrr dhuinn dol do 'n t-seòmar 's am bheil na mnathan uaisle. | We had better go to the room where the ladies are. |
| Tha 'n t-uisg' ann. | It is raining. |
| Cha n-'eil ann ach fras. | It is only a shower. |
| Tha 'm paipeir-naigheachd air tighinn. | The newspaper has come. |
| Thoir h-ugam e. | Bring it to me. |
| Thoir dhuinn ceòl, 'Iseabal. | Give us music, Isabella. |
| 'S math a chluich thu 'm port sin. | You have played that tune well. |
| Thoir a nis dhuinn òran. | Give us now a song. |
| Ciod a dh'éirich do'n phìobair ? | What has happened to the piper ? |
| Cha chuala mi sgal d' a phìob an diugh. | I have not heard a skirl of his pipes to-day. |
| Shiach e 'chas an raoir aig banais a' bhrocair. | He sprained his foot last night at the fox-hunter's wedding. |

Am burraidh! ach bithibh caoimhneil ris a' ghille bhochd.
Cha n-e spéis do mhire 's do dh'aidhear a tha 'toirt orm-sa pìobair a chumail ach gaol a' chiùil fhéin agus cuimhne nan làithean a dh'fhalbh. Cha n-'eil ceòl ann a dhrùigheas air mo chridhe cosmhuil ris.
Tha' n t-àm ann airson aoraidh.
Buail an clag.

The blockhead! but be kind to the poor lad.
It is not a liking for mirth and merriment that makes me keep a piper, but love for pipe music, and the memory of the days that are gone. There is no other music that so deeply affects my heart.
It is time for worship.
Ring the bell.

## A' BHANAIS, THE WEDDING.

An tu 'th' ann, a Màiri bhàn nam mìog-shul?
'S mi le 'r cead; am bheil sibh-fhéin gu sunndach?
Mata cha n-'eil; tha mi air mo chlaoidh le sgìos 'us cion cadail.
Dhì-chuimhnich mi gu'n robh sibh aig a' bhanais.
Co 'bhiodh ann mur bithinn-sa, 's gu'm bu mhi fleasgach bean na bainnse?
Bha mòran agaibh r' a dheanamh.
Carson a tha thu 'g ràdh sin?
An cuala sibh riamh an sean-fhocal, "An ni nach cluinn thu 'n diugh cha n-aithris thu 'm Màireach?"
Dh'fhaodadh tu innseadh dhomh-sa.
An geall sibh nach tig sibh thairis air?
Geallaidh; so mo làmh.
'S e mo bharail nach 'eil i math na 's leòir air a shon.
'S e mo bharail-sa nach 'eil caileag 's an dùthaich a's laghaiche na i.
'S i nach 'eil 's nach robh riamh laghach.
Mo naire! a Mhàiri; cha téid thusa do'n mhonadh am bliadhna.
'D é 's ciall d' a sin?
Nach 'eil fhios agad?

Is it you, fair-haired Mary of the smiling eyes?
It is, with your permission; are you, sir, in good spirits?
Indeed I am not; I am worn out with fatigue and want of sleep.
I forgot that you were at the wedding.
Who should be there if I were not, seeing that I was the bride's best man.
You had much to do.
Why do you say so?
Have you ever heard the proverb, "What you do not hear to-day you will not repeat to-morrow?"
You might tell it to me.
Will you promise not to repeat it?
I will; here is my hand.
It is my opinion that she is not good enough for him.
It is my opinion that there is not a nicer girl in the country.
She is not and never was nice.
For shame! Mary; you will not go to the hill this year.
What does that mean?
Do you not know?

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| Cha n-'eil. | I do not. |
| Ri lìnn mo sheanar b'àbhaist do'n chòrdadh a bhi aca air a' mhonadh ud. | In the time of my grandfather they used to hold the contract meeting on yon hill. |
| 'D é dhe sin ? | What of that ? |
| Bha leac air a mhullach mu mheudachd lic-lighe air am biodh iad a' cur a' bhéidh 's na dibhe. | There was a flag on the top of it about the size of a gravestone on which they used to put the food and drink. |
| 'D é tha 'n 'ur beachd ? | What do you mean ? |
| Tha nach bi còrdadh agad-sa 'm bliadhna. | I mean that there will be no marriage contract for you this year. |
| Beannachd leibh ; comhairlicidh mi do Mhiss Anna gun gnothuch a bhi aice ruibh. | Good-bye ; I shall advise Miss Ann to have nothing to do with you. |
| Cha toir i feairt ort. | She will not heed you. |
| Chì sinn. | We shall see. |
| Turus math dhuit, a Màiri laghach. | A good journey to you, dainty Mary. |
| C'uin a thàinig thu o'n bhanais ? | When did you come from the wedding ? |
| Mu chòig uairean 's a' mhaduinn. | About five o'clock in the morning. |
| Cia meud a bh'ann de chuideachd ? | How many were there of a company ? |
| Mu dhà fhichead. | About forty. |
| Co 'phòs iad ? | Who married them ? |
| Phòs ministeir na sgìreaachd. | The minister of the parish. |
| Am bheil an sluagh toigheach air ? | Are the people fond of him ? |
| Tha, agus is math a dh'fhaodas iad, oir tha e càirdeil, aoidheil riutha. | They are, and they may well be, for he is friendly and affable to them. |
| 'D é 'rinn sibh an déigh dha falbh. | What did you do after he left ? |
| Thòisich sinn air an dannsadh. | We began the dancing. |
| Co 'dhanns a' cheud righil ? | Who danced the first reel ? |
| Dhanns mise le be anna bainnse, 's dhanns fear na bainnse le 'maighdein. | I danced with the bride and the bridegroom danced with her maid. |
| Bha righil 'us righil againn an déigh sin gus an robh sinn sgìth. | We had reel after reel after that till we were tired. |
| An sin leig sibh 'ur n-anail tacan. | You then rested yourselves for a while. |
| Leig, 'us chaidh uisge-beatha 'chur mu'n cuairt. An sin thubhairt mise, "Tha bean na bainnse 'g òl oirbh." | We did, and whisky was sent round. I then said, "The bride drinks to you." |
| Thubhairt am fleasgach eile, "Tha fear na bainnse 'g òl oirbh." | The other best man said, "The bridegroom drinks to you." |
| An robh iad a' glaodhaich 's a' deanamh sgaileagan le 'm meòir ? | Were they shouting and cracking their fingers ? |

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| Bha, 'us shaoileadh sibh air uairibh gu'n robh na fir air bàinidh. | Yes, and you could fancy at times that the men were in a frenzy. |
| Bhiodh siu a rèir an eòlais air mac na bracha. | That would be in proportion to their acquaintance with the son of malt. |
| Cha n-abair mi nach 'eil beagan de 'n fhìrinn agaibh. | I shall not say that there is not some truth in your remark. |
| An robh òrain 'g an gabhail ? | Were songs sung ? |
| Bha, an dràs 's a rìs. | Yes, now and again. |
| 'N uair a bhiodh sibh sgìth de bhreabadh nan cas. | When you were tired of thumping the floor. |
| Dìreach sin. | Just so. |
| 'D è 'tha "cur reast 's an urlar" a' ciallachadh ? | What does "arresting the floor" mean ? |
| Gu bheil stad ri bhi 's an dannsadh car ghreis no gu bheil càraidean sònruichte 'g a ghleidheil dhoibh-fhèin. | That dancing is to be stopped for a while, or that certain couples are keeping it for themselves. |
| 'D è 'n uair a bha e 'n uair a shuidh sibh gu'r suipeir ? | What o'clock was it when you sat to supper ? |
| Bha e deich uairean. | It was ten o'clock. |
| Co 'bh' air ceann a' bhùird ? | Who was at the head of the table ? |
| Bha mise. | I was. |
| Co 'bh'air ceann shìos a' bhùird ? | Who was at the foot of the table ? |
| Bha athair bean na bainnse. | The bride's father. |
| An robh cuirm shòghar agaibh ? | Had you a sumptuous feast ? |
| Bha gach biadh a b'fheàrr againn a ghabhadh faotainn 's an dùthaich. | We had the best kinds of food that could be got in the country. |
| Am bheil na daoine teom' air a' bhiadh a ghearradh ? | Are the men good carvers ? |
| Bhiodh e 'n a thàmailt do dhuine mur biodh fhios aige ciamar a ghearradh e cearc no biadh eile. | It would be a disgrace to a man not to know how to carve a fowl or other food. |
| An robh fala-dhà agaibh ? | Had you fun ? |
| Bha na 's leòir. | We had plenty. |
| Am bheil an sluagh tugaideach ? | Are the people jocose ? |
| Tha, mòran diubh. | Yes, many of them. |
| Am bheil fearas-chuideachd shònruichte sam bith aca aig an t-suipeir ? | Have they any particular amusement at the supper. |
| Bithidh iad ri fala-dhà le cnàmhan. | They make sport with bones. |
| Cuiridh fear uchd circe ris an abrar an long no cnàimh lom sam bith a dh'innsuidh fir eile, a dh'fheumas rann a dheanamh. | Some one will send a fowl's breast called the ship or any bare bone to another, who must make a rhyme. |
| Ma tha na fir geur bheir iad àbhachd do'n chuideachd. | If the men are sharp-witted they will afford sport to the company. |

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| Nach 'eil coinneamh aca roimh 'n phòsadh a shocrachadh chùisean ? | Have they not a meeting before marriage to arrange matters ? |
| Tha dà choinneamh aca' an còrdadh mòr 's an còrdadh beag. | They have two meetings—the big contract meeting and the little. |
| 'D é 'th' air a dheanamh aig a' chòrdadh bheag ? | What is done at the little contract meeting ? |
| Tha 'm fear a' tighinn le companach gu tigh a leanain gu e-féin a thairgseadh. | The man comes with a companion to his sweetheart's house to offer himself. |
| Tha 'n còrdadh mòr 'n a leth bhanais. | The big contract meeting is a half wedding. |
| Tha na càirdean a' cruinneachadh taobh air thaobh. | The friends of both parties meet. |
| 'D e 'tha air a dheanamh aige ? | What is done at it ? |
| Tha là na bainnse 's gach cùis fheumail eil' air an socrachadh. | The wedding day is fixed and other necessary arrangements are made. |
| Feumaidh gu bheil na bainnsean sin cosgail. | These weddings must be expensive. |
| Cha n-eil teagamh nach 'eil. | No doubt they are. |
| Nach amaideach na h-uiread a chur a mach orra ? | Is it not folly to spend so much on them ? |
| Cha n-'eil an t-uallach orra-san aig am bheil a' bhanais. | The burden does not fall on those who have the wedding. |
| Camar sin ? | How so ? |
| Tha na coimhearsnaich a' cur a stigh gach ni 'bhios feumail. | The neighbours send in all that is necessary. |
| Gu dearbh ! | Indeed ! |
| Cuiridh iad cearcan, uibhean, ìm, mulachagan càise, 'us nithe eile g' an ionnsuidh. | They send them hens, eggs, butter, cheeses, and other things. |
| Mar so tha càirdeas agus deagh coimhearsnachd air an cumail suas. | Thus friendliness and neighbourliness are kept up. |
| Tha eagal orm gu bheil tuilleadh 's a' chòir de dh'òl a' dol air aghaidh aig na còdhailibh sin. | I fear that too much drinking goes on at these meetings. |
| Tha air uairibh ; ach tha na 's lugha ann dheth na b'àbhaist. | Yes, at times, but there is less of it than used to be. |
| Gu ma h- ann na 's lugha 'bhios e 'fàs a h-uile là. | May it become less every day. |

## CRUINNEACHADH GÀIDHEALACH AN OBAIN.

## THE OBAN HIGHLAND GATHERING.

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| Fàilt air a' mhaighstir-sgoil ; cia as a thug sibh a' choiseachd ? | Hail to the schoolmaster ; whence have you walked ? |

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| Is coma cia as ; tha mi air mo chlaoidh le teas 'us pathadh. | It does not matter whence ; I am exhausted with heat and thirst. |
| Rachaibh a stigh, a dhuine ghaolaich. | Go in, dear man. |
| Ni mi sin gu toilleach. | I will do so willingly |
| Am bheil thu 'n sin, a Chiorsdan ? | Are you there, Kirsty ? |
| Tha mi 'tighinn. | I am coming. |
| So am maighstir-sgoil an impis fàilneachadh le pathadh. | Here is the schoolmaster like to faint with thirst. |
| Nach e so an là bruthainneach ! | What a sultry day ! |
| Leigibh sibh-fhéin 'n 'ur sìneadh air an uirigh. | Stretch yourself on the couch. |
| So ! so ! a nuas deoch do d' charaid. | Come ! come ! bring a drink to your friend. |
| An gabh sibh deoch mheòig no bhlàthaich ? | Will you take a drink of whey or butter milk. |
| Meòg ! blàthach ! Nach 'eil deur idir 's a' bhotul ? | Whey ! butter milk ! Is there not a drop at all in the bottle ? |
| 'S ann air a shon fhéin a ni'n cat crònan ; ach a dh'ìnnseadh na fìrinn dhì-chuimhnich mi gu'n robh a leithid 's an tigh. | The cat purs for itself ; but to tell the truth I forgot that there was such a thing in the house. |
| An gabh sibh e mar tha e no'n cuir mi uisge 'n a cheann ? | Will you take it as it is or shall I mix it with water ? |
| 'S fheàrr leam deoch mheòig, gu'n robh math agad. | I prefer a drink of whey, thank you. |
| Toilichibh sibh-fhéin. | Please yourself. |
| 'S fheàird mi sin. | I am the better of that. |
| An ann 's an Oban a bha sibh ? | Is it in Oban that you were ? |
| 'S ann. | Yes. |
| Tha mi cinnteach gu bheil ùpraid mhòr amn an dràs le luchd-turuis. | I am sure that there is much bustle in it at present with tourists. |
| Bha othail ann an diugh co dhiù nach fhaca mise riamh a leithid. | There was a commotion in it to-day at any rate such as I never saw. |
| Ciod air am bheil sibh a' tighinn ? | What do you refer to ? |
| B' e 'n diugh là nan cluichean Gàidhealach. | This was the day of the Highland games. |
| An do chruinnich mòran sluaigh g'am faicinn ? | Did many people assemble to see them ? |
| Tha iad a' deanamh dheth nach robh na's lugha na còig mìle cruinn. | It is computed that not fewer than five thousand were assembled. |
| Cia as a thàinig iad ? | Whence did they come ? |
| As gach ceàrn de 'n dùthaich mu 'n cuairt 's a dùthchanan eile. | From every district of the surrounding country, and from other countries. |
| C' àit an robh a' choinneamh air a cumail ? | Where was the meeting held ? |

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| Air faiche taobh a mach a' bhaile. | On a field outside of the town. |
| An robh an sluagh uile air an fhaiche aig an aon àm ? | Were all the people on the field at the same time ? |
| Cha robh ; bha sruth 'us saobh-shruth dhiubh air an ais 's air an aghaidh eadar am baile 's an fhaiche fad an là. | They were not ; a stream of them was passing and repassing all day between the town and the field. |
| An robh an t-éideadh Gàidhealach air mòran diubh ? | Did many of them wear the Highland dress ? |
| Bha e air a' chuid bu mhò de luchd na farpuis 's air corra 'h-aon de na h-uaislean. | It was worn by most of the competitors and by a few of the gentry. |
| An robh farpuis ann mu chaitheamh na cloiche ? | Was there a competition in putting the stone ? |
| Is dùth dhuit-sa 'cheist sin a chur. | It is natural for you to put that question. |
| Bha là 'bha mi maith air caitheamh na cloiche, ach dh'fhalbh an là sin. | There was a day when I could put the stone well, but that day has passed. |
| Bha farpuis ann mu chaitheamh na cloiche, mu thilgeil an ùird, mu chur char de 'n chabar, mu leum, mu ruith, mu dhannsadh, 's mu phìobaireachd. | There was a competition in putting the stone, throwing the hammer, tossing the caber, leaping, running, dancing, and bagpipe playing. |
| Co 'bhuidhinn an duais a b'àirde airson a' cheud thrì dhiubh sin ? | Who won the first prize for the first three of these ? |
| Fear ris an abrar Dòmhnull Dinnie. | A man called Donald Dinnie. |
| Cia meud troidh a thilg e 'chlach bu truime ? | How many feet did he throw the heavy stone ? |
| Naoi troidhe deug air fhichead. | Thirty-nine feet. |
| Cia meud troidh a thilg e 'n t-òrd bu truime ? | How many feet did he throw the heavy hammer ? |
| A dhà dheug 'us còig fichead troidh agus naoi òirlich. | One hundred and twelve feet and nine inches. |
| A dhuine chridhe ! Nach e 'n curaidh e ! | Dear me ! What a champion he is ! |
| Tha iad ag ràdh gu'm b'urrainn e 'thilgeil na b'fhaide na 'n togradh e. | It is said that he could have thrown it farther had he chosen. |
| An d'fhairich sibh an robh mòran de dh'uaislean na dùthcha air an fhaiche ? | Did you notice if many of the gentlemen of the county were on the field ? |
| Cha n-fhaca mi riamh cruinneachadh cho mòr dhiubh. | I never saw so large an assembly of them. |
| An robh Professor Blackie, caraid nan Gàidheal, ann ? | Was Professor Blackie, the friend of the Gael, there ? |
| 'S e 'bha, am broilleach na cuideachd. | He was, in the forefront of the company. |

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| Co tuilleadh a chunnaic sibh de na h-uaislean ? | Who more did you see of the gentlemen ? |
| Chunnaic mi Morair Bhraid -albainn, Am Morair Dòmhnullach, am Morair Cailean Caimbeul, mac do Mhac Cailein, an Còirneal Iain Mac 'Ille Chaluim, agus mòran a bharrachd. | I saw Lord Breadalbane, Lord MacDonald, Lord Colin Campbell, a son of Mac Cailen, Colonel John Malcolm, and many others. |
| An innis sibh so dhomh ? An robh duaisean air an toirt airson bàrdachd Gàidhealaich ? | Will you tell me if prizes were given for Highland poetry ? |
| Cha robh. | There were not. |
| Is diulich sin. | That is a pity. |
| Cha b'ionann a' chùis ri lìnn Dhonnachaidh bhàin Mhic-an-t-Saoir. | It was different in the time of Duncan ban Mac Intyre. |
| Nach do bhuidhinn esan duaisean 's an Eaglais-bhric 's an Dun-éideann airson òrain a sgrìobh e ? | Did he not win prizes in Falkirk and Edinburgh for songs he wrote ? |
| Bhuidhinn, agus tha na h-òrain sin air mhaireann gus an la 'n diugh. | He did, and these songs survive to the present day. |
| Ciod air am bheil iad a' tighinn ? | What is the subject of them ? |
| Air a' Ghaelig 's a' phìob mhòir. | Gaelic and the great bagpipe. |
| Nach robh miadh air bàrdachd aig na cluichean ainmeil a bh'aca 's a' Ghréig o shean. | Was not poetry in repute at the celebrated games they had in Greece of old. |
| Bha, agus b'àbhaist do na bàird 's do na h-eachdraichean an oibrean a leughadh aig na coinneamhan sin. | It was, and the bards and historians used to read their works at these assemblies. |
| 'D é 'n seòrsa dhuaisean a bh' air an toirt aca ? | What kind of prizes was given at them ? |
| Aig coinneamh mhòir *Olympia* b' e 'n duais crùn de 'n chraoibh olaidh fhiadhaich. | At the great assembly of Olympia the prize was a crown of the wild olive. |
| Thar leam-fhéin gu'm bu leibideach an duais sin. | It strikes me that that was a trifling reward. |
| B' eadh, innte féin, ach bha cliù anabarrach fuaighte rithe. | Yes, in itself ; but there was very great fame connected with it. |
| Bha 'n duine 'bhuidhinn i air a mheas an duin 'a b'urramaich' am measg nan Greugach. | He who won it was deemed the most distinguished man among the Greeks. |
| Nach iongantach nach 'eil na h-uachdarain a toirt misneich do na bàird againn-fhéin ? | Is it not surprising that the lairds do not encourage our own bards ? |
| 'S eadh, 's gur h-i 'Ghàelig cainnt an t-sluaigh. | It is, considering that Gaelic is the language of the people. |

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| Tha na h-uachdarain am bidheantas 'n an daoine tuigseach, fiosrach. | The lairds are generally intelligent and well-informed men. |
| Tha iad, ach cha n-'eil iad cho dealasach mu fhòghlum 's a dh'fhaodadh iad. | They are, but they are not so zealous about learning as they might be. |
| Na 'm biodh chitheadh iad gur h-ann trid na Gaelig amhain is urrainn na Gàidheil a bhi air an ionnsachadh gu ceart. | If they were they would perceive that it is only through the medium of Gaelic that Highlanders can be instructed properly. |
| Tha e imchuidh uime sin gu'm biodh a' Ghàelig air a teagasg 's na sgoilean. | It is proper, therefore, that Gaelic should be taught in the schools. |
| Nach 'eil e imchuidh cuideachd gu 'm biodh a' Bheurla air a teagasg annta ? | Is it not proper also that English should be taught in them ? |
| Gun teagamh ; cha n-fhaodar dearmad a dheanamh air a' Bheurla. | Undoubtedly ; English must not be neglected. |
| Is duilich nach 'eil leabhar air a chur a mach le Gàelig 'us Beurla taobh ri taobh. | It is a pity that a book is not published with Gaelic and English side by side. |
| 'D é 'm math a dheanamh sin ? | What good would that do ? |
| Bhiodh e 'n a chuideachadh mòr do'n òigridh ann an ionnsachadh na Beurla. | It would be a great assistance to the young in learning English. |
| Tha mi 'g 'ur tuigsinn ; 's ann 'n 'ur ceann fhéin a tha 'n tùr. | I understand you ; it is in your head that the sense is. |
| 'S mithich dhomh a nis dol air mo cheum. | It is time for me now to pursue my journey. |
| Gu ma math a bhios sibh. | May all good attend you. |
| Thugaibh ar beannachd gu 'r céile, a' bhean chéillidh, chòir. | Give our compliments to your wife, the discreet and worthy woman. |

## AM BAILE, THE TOWN.

1

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| A ghlinn mo ghràidh carson a dh'fhàg mi thu ? | My beloved glen why did I leave thee ? |
| Tha mi 'n so mar bhò mhaoil 'am buaile choimhich. | I am here like a polled cow in a strange fold. |
| 'S truagh mi-fhéin leat ; c'uin a sguireas tu de d' ghearan 's de d' ochanaich ? | I am to be pitied with you ; when will you cease your complaining and wailing ? |
| Cha tig am baile so rium gu sìorruidh, tha mi 'g ràdh riut. | This town will never agree with me, I tell you. |

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| Mur tig 's ann agad-sa 's cha n-ann aig a' bhaile 'tha choire. | If not you and not the town are to blame. |
| 'S fheàrr dhuibh sgrìob a ghabhail feadh a' bhaile dh'fheuch an cuir e saod oirbh. | You had better take a turn through the town to see if it will put you into good humour. |
| Tha mi seachd sgìth d' a chabh-sair tioram, cruaidh. | I am sick tired of its dry, hard pavement. |
| Tha sinn air ar cur h-uige gu cruaidh le 'r dòighean friona-sach. | We are severely tried by your fretful ways. |
| Tha fhios gu'n seasadh tusa do mhàthair an aghaidh d'athar. | Of course you would stand by your mother against your father. |
| 'D ê 'dh'iarradh sibh nach 'eil agaibh :—tigh grinn, seasgair, coimhearsnaich shuairce, agus iomadh toileachas-inntinn ? | What could you desire that you have not :—a fine snug house, affable neighbours, and many enjoyments. |
| B'fheàrr leam mìle uair na seana choimhearsnaich, an sean tigh tubhta, agus na garbhlaichean m' a thiomchioll. | I would prefer a thousand times the old neighbours, the old thatched house, and the rough grounds around it. |
| Tuigidh sibh ri ùine uaisle nam bailtean. | You will by and by understand town gentility. |
| Uaisle nam bailtean gu dearbh ! 'S e sin uaisle tholgach an fhas-ain, mar thubhairt am bàrd. | Town gentility indeed ! That is the hollow gentility of fashion, as the bard said. |
| Nach bu taitneach a' choinneamh aig an robh sinn an oidhche roimhe ! | What a pleasant meeting we were at the other night ! |
| 'N e 'n t-Soiridh 'tha 'ad bheachd no c'ainm so 'th' air ? | Do you mean the Soiridh, or what is it called ? |
| An *Soiree.* | The Soiree. |
| Coinneamh na spìocaireachd. | The niggardly meeting. |
| Shaoileadh neach nach d'ith thu dad ach domlas o'n thàinig thu do'n bhaile. | One would be ready to suppose that you had eaten nothing but gall since you came to town. |
| Cupan de dh'eanghlais, sliseag thana de dh'aran-cruineachd, agus fiach a bhonn-a-sèa de rêisins. | A cup of milk-and-water, a thin slice of wheaten bread, and a half-penny's worth of raisins. |
| Cha b'ann gu cuirm geòcaireachd a bha sinn air ar cuireadh. | It was not to a feast of gluttony that we were invited. |
| Chunnaic mi là 'dh'ithinn air aon tràth na bh' air a roinn air gach aon a bha 's an àite-shuidhe còmhla rium. | I have seen the day when I could eat at one meal what was served to all in the seat with me. |
| Cha n-fhaod e 'bhi nach do thaitinn na ministeirean riut. | Surely the ministers pleased you. |
| Mata cha do thaitinn. | They did not. |
| D e 'choire 'th' agad dhoibh. | What fault have you with them ? |

Tha gu 'n do ghabh iad mar cheann-teagaisg, "Mol thusa mise agus molaidh mise thusa 's mi-fhéin."
That they took for their text—"Praise you me, and I will praise you and myself."

Cha d'fhairich sinne anns na thubhairt iad ach comharadh air an càirdeas d' a chéile.
We perceived nothing in what they said but a token of friendliness to each other.

Bha spailpean 'n am measg a chuir 'am chuimhne adhag a bhios a' tathunnaich ris gach neach a thig 'n a rathad.
There was a fop among them who reminded me of a terrier that barks at every one that comes in its way.

Nach tu a leig ruith le d'theangaidh !
How you have given rein to your tongue !

Co ach esan ! rinn e sud 'us rinn e so ; cha d' rinn e sud 's cha d' rinn e so ; 's mu 'n do sguir e thug e beum do dhaoine b' fheàrr 's a' b'fhòghluimte na e-fhéin.
Who but he ! He did this and he did that ; and he did not do this and he did not do that : and before he finished he hit better and more learned men than himself.

Cha robh an gille grinn ach a' deanamh a dhleasnais.
The fine lad was only doing his duty.

Theagamh nach robh, ach 's coma leam peasain gun mhodh, gun tùr.
Perhaps so ; but I do not care for brats without manners or sense.

Nach peacach dhuit a bhi an aghaidh nam ministeirean ?
Is it not sinful of you to be against the ministers ?

Cha n-'eil mise 'n an aghaidh, 's mi nach 'eil.
I am not against them, not I.

'S ann coltach ris a tha do sheanachas.
Your conversation indicates as much.

Biodh iad bàigheil, tùrail, fiachail 's cha n-'eil neach ann aig am bi barrachd meas orra na bhios agam-sa.
Let them be kindly, sensible, and worthy, and no one will respect them more than I.

A thaobh *soirees*, abram gu bheil iad 'n an caitheamh-aimsir thaitneich, tharbheich do shean 's do dh'òg 'n uair a tha iad fo dheagh riaghladh.
With regard to soirees, let me say that they are a pleasant and profitable pastime to old and young when they are well conducted.

S mòr am math a th' air a dheanamh 'n ar là 's 'n ar lìnn trid sgoilean-sàbaid.
Great good is being done in our day and generation by means of Sabbath Schools.

Cha chomasach tuilleadh 's a' chòir a ràdh as an leth.
It is not possible to say too much in their favour.

2

Tha cuid-eigin aig an dorus, a Mhairearad.
There is some person at the door, Margaret.

Mur h-'eil mi meallta 's e Eoghann a' bhuth' a th' ann.

Am bheil sibh uile 'n 'ur slàinte 'an so?

Thig a nìos, 'Eoghainn; bha sùil agam riut an dè.

'N uair a bhà mi deas gus am bruthach a dhìreadh thàinig sgaoimearan bhàrr *yacht* a stigh, 'us b' fheudar dhomh feitheamh orra.

'S math an t-àm 'an d'thàinig thu.

Theab tighinn eadar na mnathan 'us mise mu dhòighean a' bhaile.

'S ann ri dòighean 'us beusan eile 'bha sibhse cleachda.

'S ann, ach tha gliocas 's an t-sean-fhacal, "Beus an àite 's am bìthear 's e 'nithear."

An téid sibh a mach a ghabhail sràid?

Tha sin cho math dhomh 's a bhi meananaich 's a' tachas mo chinn 'an so fad an là, gun sion agam r' a dheanamh.

Thoir a nuas mo bhrògan, a Shiùsaidh.

Nach fheàrr dhuibh na bòtuinnean a chur oirbh o'n 's e là na faidhreach a th' ann?

Na bòtuinnean! Togaibh d' ur n-amaideachd.

A nuas na brògan gu h-ealamh.

Tha mi nis deas gu dol leat.

Ciamar a thèarnas sinn am bruthach?

Air fhiaradh.

Nach àillidh, farsuing an sealladh a th' againn o'n mhullach so!

Sud calg-dhìreach mu 'r coinneamh caol nan loingeas bréid-gheal, eadar Muile 's a' Mhorairne.

Sin an Linne Sheileich eadar iad 's tir-mòr.

Tha eilean Chearara dlùth dhuinn, a' cumail dìon' 'us fasgaidh air a' chala 's air a' bhaile.

If I am not deceived, it is Ewen of the shop.

Are you all well here?

Come forward, Ewen; I expected you yesterday.

When I was ready to ascend the hill, harum-scarums from a yacht came in, and I had to attend upon them.

You have come in good time.

The women and I very nearly quarrelled about the ways of the town.

You have been accustomed to other ways and manners.

Yes, but there is wisdom in the proverb, "The use and wont of the place you dwell in must be conformed to."

Will you go out to walk?

It is as well for me to do so as to be yawning and scratching my head here all day, having nothing to do.

Bring down my shoes, Susan.

Had you not better put on the boots, since it is the market day?

The boots! give over your folly.

Bring down the boots quickly.

I am now ready to accompany you.

How shall we descend the hill?

Slantwise.

What a beautiful and extensive view we have from this height!

Yonder is the sound of white-sailed ships, between Mull and Morven.

There is the Linne Heilich between them and the mainland.

The island of Kerara is near us, protecting and sheltering the harbour and town

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| 'D ê phàirce bheag tha 'n so fodhainn ? | What small park is this below us ? |
| 'S e sin an t-àilean-bhall. | That is the bowling green. |
| Gabhamaid sìos an rathad so. | Let us turn down this way. |
| Tha sinn a nis air a' chòmhnard. | We are now on level ground. |
| 'D é 'n stìobull àrd, cuimir a th' air an làimh chlì ? | What lofty and graceful steeple is to the left ? |
| 'S e sin stìobull na h-eaglais' ùire mu 'n robh mi 'bruidhinn ruibh air a' bho'n dê. | That is the steeple of the church about which I was speaking to you the day before yesterday. |
| 'S e togail eireachdail a th' innte darìreadh. | It is really a handsome building. |
| Am bheil i grinn 's an taobh a stigh ? | Is it elegant within ? |
| Cha mhòr a tha cho grinn. | Few are so elegant. |
| Am bheil *òrgan* innte ? | Is there an organ in it ? |
| 'S e *harmonium* is ainm do'n inneal-chiùil a th' innte. | The musical instrument in it is called a harmonium. |
| 'D ê 'n seòrsa inneal-ciùil a th' ann ? | What kind of musical instrument is it ? |
| Tha e car cosmhuil ri *piano* air an taobh a mach, ach tha fuaim monmhorach, àrd aige mar th' aig *òrgan*. | It is somewhat like a piano outside, but it has a loud murmuring sound like that of an organ. |
| Chì sibh bùithean de gach seòrsa a suas 's a nuas an t-sràid. | You will see shops of every variety up and down the street. |
| 'D é 'n tigh àrd, uinneagach a th' againn 'an so ? | What lofty many-windowed house have we here ? |
| 'S e sin *bank* no tigh-malairt airgid. | That is a bank. |
| 'D é 'n riadh a gheibhear ann airson airgid ? | What interest will be received in it for money ? |
| Cha n-fhaigh ach dà phunnd 's a deich as a cheud punnd Sassunnach. | Only two and a half per cent. |
| 'D ê 'n soitheach-smùide 'tha cho farumach le 'clag 's le 'feadaig ? | What steamboat is it that makes such a noise with its bell and whistle ? |
| Té de 'n fheadhainn bheaga 'bhios a' dol troimh 'n *chanal.* | One of the small ones that goes through the canal. |
| Cha n-fhaca mi tigh-òsda o'n thàinig sinn a mach. | I have not seen an hotel since we came out. |
| Tha còig eadar sinn 's an drochaid. | There are five between us and the bridge. |
| C'àit am bheil obair a' *ghas* ? | Where is the gas work ? |
| Tha i 's an t-sràid chùil. | It is in the back street. |
| Nach ann 's a' chala' tha'n loingeas! | What a number of ships is in the harbour ! |
| Tha ceithir-deug ann de loingeas dhaoin' uaisle. | There are fourteen gentlemen's ships in it. |

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| Sud tigh-sgoil a' bhaile aig bun a' bhruthaich. | Yonder is the schoolhouse, at the foot of the brae. |
| Tha sinn a nis aig a' *Phost Office.* | We are now at the Post Office. |
| Cia meud uair 's an là 'bhios am *post* a' dol a mach 's a' tighinn a stigh ? | How many times a day does the post go out and come in ? |
| Dà uair. | Twice. |
| 'S mòr an goireas sin do 'n dùthaich. | That is a great convenience to the country. |
| 'N e sin an *dotair* mòr a' dol seachad ? | Is that the big doctor passing ? |
| A' cheart duine. | The very man. |
| Nach ann air a tha 'chabhag ! | What a hurry he is in ! |
| Tha de dh'iarraidh aig daoine air 's nach 'eil tàmh no fois aige a là no dh'oidhche. | He is so much in request that he has no rest either day or night. |
| An duine beannaichte ! 'N uair a bha mi air mo dhruim air leabaidh-thinneis cha b'urrainn mo mhàthair a bhi na bu chaomha rium. | The blessed man ! When I was on my back on a sick bed my mother could not be kinder to me. |
| Nach ann air muinntir na faidhreach a tha 'n othail ! | What a bustle there is among the market people ! |
| Tha e coltach ris gu bheil forfhais mhath air eich. | It appears that there is a good demand for horses. |
| Am faic sibh an tigh ud air am bheil aghaidh de chloich ghoireil ? | Do you see you house with a freestone front ? |
| Tha mi 'g a fhaicinn. | I see it. |
| 'S e sin an tigh-mòid. | That is the Court House. |
| An ann 'an sin a bhios an Siorram agus Luchd-riaghlaidh a' bhaile a' cumail mhòdan ? | Is it there that the Sheriff and Magistrates of the town hold courts ? |
| 'S ann. | It is. |
| Tha cho math dhuinn so fhàgail mu 'n coinnich sinn luchd-eòlais. | It is as well for us to leave this lest we meet acquaintances. |
| Rachamaid sìos seach a' ceàrdach. | Let us go down past the smithy. |
| 'D ê 'n obair a tha 'dol air aghaidh 'an so ? | What work is going on here ? |
| Tha iad ag uidheamachadh ceann-uidhe airson an rathaid-iaruinn. | They are preparing a terminus for the railway. |
| Tha mi 'cluinntinn gu bheil iad 'dol a thogail laimhrig ùire. | I hear that they are going to build a new pier. |
| Tha iad ag obair orra goirrid uainn. | They are working at it a short distance from us. |
| 'D e 'n doimhneachd uisge 'th' aig an àite far am bheil iad 'g a togail ? | What depth of water is there at the place where they are building it ? |

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| Mu fhichead troidh aig ìsle làin 's mu dhà throidh dheug air fhichcad aig àirde làin. | About twenty feet at low water, and about thirty-two feet at high water. |
| Ciamar a tha na clachan air an leigeil le leathad ? | How are the stones let down ? |
| Le slabhraidhean agus ulagan iaruinn. | With iron chains and blocks. |
| Tha inneal-deathaich aca a dh'oibreachadh na h-achfhuinn. | They have a steam-engine to work the apparatus. |
| Ciamar a tha na clachan air an cur 'n an àite gu h-ìosal ? | How are the stones put in their place under water ? |
| Tha clachairean a' dol sìos. | Masons go down. |
| Ciamar a thèid aca air fuireach gu h-ìosal ? | How do they manage to remain below ? |
| Bheir mi oidhearp air sin a mhìneachadh dhuibh. | I shall attempt to explain that to you. |
| Tha aodach leathraich orra 'tha 'g an còmhdachadh o bhonn an cosan gu 'n amhaich. Tha clogaid chopair air a cur orra a tha aig a h-ìochdar air a dlùthadh ris an aodach air dhòigh 's nach fhaigh deur uisge 'stigh. | They have leather clothes on them, that cover from the soles of their feet to their neck. A copper helmet is put on them, and is fitted so tightly at its lower end to the clothes that no water can get in. |
| Ciamar a tha e 'tachairt nach 'eil na fir air an tacadh ? | How does it happen that the men are not chocked ? |
| Tha pìob de *ghutta-percha* a leigeil a stigh àilidh air cùlaobh na clogaide. | A gutta-percha pipe admits air at the back of the helmet. |
| Cia as a tha 'n t-àileadh a' tighinn ? | Where does the air come from ? |
| O inneal-àilidh ris am bheil an dara ceann de 'n phìob air a theannachadh. | From an air-engine to which one end of the pipe is screwed. |
| Tha dòigh aca air àilidh shalaich 's air anabarr àilidh ghloin a leigeil a mach. | They have a method of letting out foul air and excess of pure air. |
| Ciamar a tha iad a' faicinn fo 'n uisge ? | How do they see under water ? |
| Tha trì uinneagan beaga air a' chlogaid. | There are three small windows on the helmet. |
| Am bheil an rathad a' dol troimh 'n chnoc so os ar ceann ? | Does the way pass through this hill above us ? |
| Tha ; coisicheamaid suas g' a ionnsuidh. | It does ; let us walk up to it. |
| 'S iomadh tora, òrd, piocaid, geamhlag, 'us baraile fùdair a chuidich gu am bealach so 'ghearradh. | Many a drill, hammer, pickaxe, crowbar, and barrel of powder helped to cut this gap. |
| 'S iomadh ; 's bha tora aca 'bha 'g obair le cumhachd deathaich. | Yes ; and they had a drill that worked by steam power. |

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| Tha sinn a nis air taobh deas a' chnuic. | We are now on the south side of the hill. |
| 'N e sud an t-each-iaruinn a' cur nan smùid dheth ? | Is yon the iron horse throwing off its smoke and steam ? |
| 'S e. | It is. |
| An gille ! Cha chuir sgìos no cuing-analach air-san. | The hero ! Neither fatigue nor shortness of breathing will affect him. |
| Nach i 'n togail ud taobh eil' an lochain eaglais na sgìreachd ? | Is not yon building on the other side of the lake the parish church ? |
| S i. | It is. |
| Nach laghach i leis an àilean uaine air a beulaobh, an cladh cian-ail air a cùlaobh, agus a' chall-aid dhosrach m' a tiomchioll ? | Is it not nice, with the green plot in front, the solitary graveyard behind, and the bushy hedge around it ? |
| Gu ma fada 'bhios an soisgeul air a shearmonachadh innte ann an cànain ghloin nam beann. | Long may the Gospel be preached in it in the pure language of the mountains. |

## LEABHRAICHEAN GAELIG, GAELIC BOOKS.

1

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| An aithne dhuibh fear a' bhail' ud shuas ? | Do you know the man of the farm up yonder ? |
| 'S aithne dhomh e r' a fhaicinn ; 's e sin uil' e. | I know him by sight, that is all. |
| Cha bu mhòr an call ged nach robh am barrachd eòlais agaibh air. | It would be no great loss though you should have no further acquaintance with him. |
| Tha e coltach ris nach 'eil thu-sa buidheach dheth. | It seems that you are not well pleased with him. |
| Cha n-'eil, 's tha aobhar agam. | I am not, and I have cause. |
| Ciod a thàinig eadaraibh ? | What is the cause of quarrel ? |
| Cha téid stad air a theangaidh ghobh-laich a' diomoladh na Gàelig 's gach ni Gàidhealaich. | His forked tongue does not cease to disparage Gaelic and everything Highland. |
| "Is tric a dhiomol an ceannaich' am bathar bu mhath leis a bhi aige 'n a mhàileid." | Often has the pedlar disparaged the goods that he would wish to have in his pack. |
| Nach dubhairt e rium 'an clàr an aodainn nach 'eil 's a' Ghàelig ach cainnt dhaoine borba, 's nach 'eil leabhraichean innte a 's fhiach an leubhadh ! | Did he not tell me to my face that Gaelic is no better than a language for savages, and that there are no books in it worth reading ! |
| Cha do labhair e ach a réir an eòlais a th'aige. | He only spoke according to the knowledge that he has. |
| Bu chòir dhuibh a ràdh a réir 'ain-eolais 's a mhi-mhodhalachd. | You should say according to his ignorance and rudeness. |

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| Tha thusa tuilleadh 'us cruaidh air. | You are too hard upon him. |
| Tha ! tha ! cha tig a soitheach le goc ach an deoch a théid ann. | Yes ! yes ! there comes not from a cask by a faucet but such liquor as it contains. |
| Cha sguir thusa de chagnadh naimhdean na Gàelig. | You will not cease to chew the enemies of Gaelic. |
| "Is duilich leam," mar thubhairt Iain Lom, "nach urrainn domh an slugadh." | "I regret," as John Lom said, "that I cannot swallow them." |
| Am feasgar mu dheireadh a bha thu'n so bha seanachas againn mu'n Ghàelig. | The last evening that you were here we had a talk about Gaelic. |
| Bha sin againn, agus bu taitneach an seanachas e. | We had, and a pleasant talk it was. |
| 'S fhiach e 'n t-saothair dhuinn air an fheasgar so còmhradh a bhi againn mu leabhraichean Gàelig. | It is worth our while this evening to have a conversation about Gaelic books. |
| C' àit an tòisich sinn ? | Where shall we begin ? |
| Aig an toiseach. | At the beginning. |
| Ach c' àit am bheil an toiseach ? | But where is the beginning ? |
| Feumaidh sinn dol air ar n-ais sèa no seachd ceud bliadhna. | We must go back six or seven hundred years. |
| Am bheil an leabhar a's sine 'th' againn an aois sin ? | Is the oldest book that we have that age ? |
| Tha iad a' deanamh dheth gu bheil. | It is estimated that it is. |
| C' ainm a th' air ? | What is its name ? |
| *Leabhar Dheer.* | The Book of Deer. |
| 'N e ainm àite a th' ann an Deer ? | Is Deer the name of a place ? |
| 'S e ainm sgìreachd a th' ann a tha 'n iar air Ceann-Phadruig, ann an siorramachd Aberaidhean. | It is the name of a parish to the west of Peterhead, in Aberdeenshire. |
| Co 'sgrìobh e ? | Who wrote it ? |
| Na manaich ann an tigh-mhanach 's an sgìreachd. | The monks in a monastery in the parish. |
| Ciod air am bheil e 'tighinn ? | What is its subject ? |
| 'S e earrannan de 'n t-soisgeul ann an Laidinn a th' anns a' chuid a's mò dheth. | The most part of it consists of portions of the Gospel in Latin. |
| Ciod air am bheil na tha 'n a Ghàelig dheth a' tighinn ? | What is the subject of the Gaelic portion of it ? |
| Tha e gu h-àraid a' tighinn air fearann a thug cinn-fheadhna 's a' choimhearsnachd do 'n tigh-mhanach. | Chiefly land given to the monastery by neighbouring chiefs. |
| An ionann Gàelig an leabhair so agus a' Ghàelig againn-ne ? | Is the Gaelic of this book the same as ours ? |
| Cha n-ionann ; tha mùthadh eatorra. | No ; there is a difference between them. |

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| 'S e 'n ath leabhar a 's sin' a th' againn *Leabhar Deadhan Lise Mòire*, ann an Earraghàidheal. | The next oldest book we have is "The book of the Dean of Lismore," in Argyll. |
| C'uin a bha 'n leabhar sin air a chur r' a chéile ? | When was that book put together ? |
| 'S a' bhliadhna 1512 ; co dhiù bha e deas 's a' bhliadhna sin. | In the year 1512 ; at least it was ready that year. |
| Co dhiù 's e eachdraidh no bàrdachd a th' ann ? | Whether does it contain history or poetry ? |
| Bàrdachd. | Poetry. |
| C' àit an d'fhuair iad i ? | Where did they find it ? |
| Air feadh na Gàidhealtachd. | Throughout the Highlands. |
| Cia meud dàn a th' ann ? | How many poems does it contain ? |
| Tha còrr 'us trì fichead ann, 'us ochd air fhichead dhiubh mu'n Fhéinn. | Upwards of sixty, of which twenty-eight are Fingalian. |
| Am bheil dàin ann le Oisean ? | Are there poems in it by Ossian ? |
| A réir an leabhair tha naoi le Oisean, dithis le Fergus filidh, agus aon le Caoilte Mac Ronain. | According to the book there are five by Ossian, two by Fergus the bard, and one by Caoilte Mac Ronain. |
| Co iad sin ? | Who are these ? |
| Triùir bhàrd na Féinne. | The three Fingalian bards. |
| Tha sinn a' fòghlum o so gu'n robh iomradh air Oisean 's gu'n robh dàin air an cur as a leth o cheann còrr 'us trì cheud 'us trì fichead bliadhna. | We learn from this that mention was made of Ossian and poems attributed to him upwards of three hundred and sixty years ago. |
| Ciod an seòrsa Gàelig a th' ann ? | What kind of Gaelic does it contain ? |
| An t-aona Ghàelig 's a th' ann an Leabhar Dheer. | The same Gaelic as in the Book of Deer. |
| C'uin a bha e air a chur a mach ? | When was it published ? |
| Tha mu fhichead bliadhna uaithe. | About twenty years ago ? |
| Co 'dh' ullaich e airson a chur a mach ? | Who prepared it for publication ? |
| An T-Ollamh MacLachluinn 'an Dun-éideann. | Dr. M'Lauchlan, in Edinburgh. |
| 'S e 'cheud leabhar Gàelig a bh'air a chlòdh-bhualadh *Leabhar-ùrnuigh Knox*, air eadar-theangachadh gu Gàelig leis an Easbuig Charsallach. | The first Gaelic book printed is Knox's Liturgy, translated into Gaelic by Bishop Carswell. |
| C'uin a thàinig e 'mach ? | When did it come out ? |
| 'S a' bhliadhna 1567. | In the year 1567. |
| Bha e air a chur a mach as ùr leis an Ollamh Mac Lachluinn o cheann beagan bhliadhnaichean. | It was republished by Dr. M'Lauchlan a few years ago. |

Bu choltach gu'n robh mòran de na Gàidheil comasach air a' Ghàelig a leubhadh 's a' bhliadhna 1567.

It would appear that many of the Highlanders could read Gaelic in 1567.

Chuir Seanadh Earraghàidheal a mach 'an Gàelig leth cheud de na Sailm 's a' bhliadhna 1659, agus an còrr 's a' bhliadhna 1694.

The Synod of Argyll published in Gaelic fifty of the Psalms in the year 1659, and the rest of them in the year 1694.

Bha na Sailm air an cur a mach 'an Gàelig leis an Urramach Iain Kirke, ministeir Bhochuidir, 's a' bhliadhna 1684.

The Psalms were published in Gaelic by the Rev. John Kirke, minister of Balquhiddir, in the year 1684.

Bha Foclair Gàelig air a chur a mach le Alastair Dòmhnullach, am bàrd, 's a' bhliadhna 1740.

A Gaelic Vocabulary was published by Alexander MacDonald, the bard, in the year 1740.

Bha 'n *Tiomnadh Nuadh* 'an Gàelig air a chur a mach 's a' bhliadhna 1767.

The New Testament in Gaelic was published in the year 1767.

Bha co-chruinneachadh de Ghnàthfhocail Ghàidhealach air a chur a mach le Mac-an-Tòisich 's a' bhliadhna 1785.

A collection of Gaelic Proverbs was published by Mackintosh in the year 1785.

Bha 'n *Sean Tiomnadh* air a chur a mach 'an Gàelig 'n a earrannaibh o'n bhliadhna 1783 gus a' bhliadhna 1801, 'n uair a bha 'n obair crìochnaichte.

The Old Testament was published in Gaelic in parts from the year 1783 to the year 1801, when the work was finished.

Bha na *Sean Dana* air an cur a mach leis an Ollamh Mac-a'-Ghobhainn 's a' bhliadhna 1787.

The Ancient Lays were published by Dr. Smith in the year 1787.

Cha n-'eil an leabhar so 'nis furasda 'fhaotainn, ach bha dithis d' a dhàin ciatach, "Dàn an Déirg" agus "Tiomnadh Ghuil," air an cur a mach o cheann beagan bhliadhnaichean le C. S. Jerram, M.A. Tha 'Ghàelig agus eadartheangachadh fìrinneach, fìor thaitneach, taobh ri taobh. Tha sinn a' moladh an leabhair so d'ar luchd-dùthcha.

It is not now easy to find this book, but two of its fine lays, "Dearg's Lay," and "Goll's Testament," were published some years ago by C. S. Jerram, M.A. The Gaelic and a faithful and a very pleasant translation stand side by side. We recommend this book to our countrymen.

Bha Obair Oisein le Mac-Mhuirich air a cur a mach 's a' bhliadhna 1806.

Ossian's Work, by Macpherson, was published in the year 1806.

Bha Foclair Gàelig Armstrong air a chur a mach 's a' bhliadhna 1825, agus Foclair a' Chomuinn Ghàidhealaich trì bliadhna an déigh sin.

Armstrong's Gaelic Dictionary was published in the year 1825, and the Highland Society's Dictionary three years afterwards.

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| Cha n-fhaod mi crìochnachadh gun iomradh a thoirt air an *Teachdaire Ghàidhealach*'s air *Cuairtear nan Gleann.* | I must not conclude without making mention of the Highland Messenger, and the Courier of the Glens. |
| 'S ann 's na leabhraichean sin a bha sgrìobhainean Gàelig an Ollaimh Mhic Leòid air an cur a mach an toiseach. | It was in these books that the Gaelic writings of Dr. M'Leod were first published. |
| 'S airidh iomradh a thoirt air na *Sgeulachan Gàidhealach* a chruinnich I. F. Caimbeul 's air *Dain Oiscan* 'an Gaelig 's 'am Beurla les an Ollamh-Mac a'-Chléirich. | The Highland Tales collected by J. F. Campbell, and Ossian's Poems in Gaelic and English by Dr. Clerk are worthy of mention. |

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| Faodaidh sinn a nis bruidhinn mu na bàird air am bheil a' bheag no 'mhòr de dh'eòlas aig Gàidheil am bidheantas. | We may now speak of the bards of which Highlanders in general have less or more knowledge. |
| Bithidh na 's leòir agaibh r' a dheanamh ma bheir sibh iomradh orra uile. | You will have enough to do if you speak of them all. |
| Cha n-urrainn domh sin a dheanamh an dràs. | I cannot do that at present. |
| Ghabhadh e leabhar gu math mòr cunntas a thoirt air na th'ann diubh. | It would take a pretty large book to give an account of them all. |
| Na'n abradh neach sam bith rium "C'àit am bheil 'ur bàrdachd r' a fhaotainn ?" dh'fhaodainn 'aire a thionndadh ri *Sàr-Obair nam Bàrd Gàidhealach.* | Were any one to ask me "Where is your poetry to be found ?" I might turn his attention to *The Beauties of Gaelic Poetry.* |
| Am bheil òrain nam bàrd uile 's an leabhar sin ? | Are the songs of all the bards in that book ? |
| Tha àireamh thaghta ann de dh' òrain le còig 'us dà fhichead bàrd. | There is a choice selection in it of songs by forty-five bards. |
| 'D é'n seòrsa òran a th'annta ? | What kind of songs are they ? |
| Orain-mholaidh, òrain-chumhaidh, òrain-ghaoil, òrain-shùgraidh, òrain-chogaidh, òrain mu ràithean na bliadhna, òrain spioradail, agus mar sin sìos. | Songs of praise, laments, love songs, songs of mirth, war songs, songs about the seasons of the year, spiritual songs, and so forth. |
| Am bheil gin ann de dh'òrain *Mhàiri Nic Leòid*, ris an abrar *Màiri, Nighean Alastair Ruaidh ?* | Are there any in it of the songs of Mary MacLeod, called Mary, the daughter of red-haired Alexander ? |
| Tha naoi ann. | There are nine. |

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| C'àit an d'rugadh i ? | Where was she born ? |
| 'An Roudal 's na H-Earradh. | In Roudal, in Harris. |
| C'uin a rugadh i ? | When was she born ? |
| 'S a' bhliadhna 1569. | In the year 1569. |
| 'D é 'n aois a bha i 'n uair a chaochail i ? | What age was she when she died ? |
| Còig fichead bliadhna 's a còig. | One hundred and five years. |
| Nach robh i 'n a banaltrum 'an teaghlach Mhic Leòid Dhunbheagain ? | Was she not a nurse in the family of M'Leod of Dunveagan ? |
| Bha fad iomadh bliadhna. | She was for many years. |
| Carson a chuir e i air fògradh do Mhuile ? | Why did he banish her to Mull ? |
| A chionn gu'n robh e diombach dhi airson òrain a rinn i. | Because he was displeased with her for a song that she composed. |
| Nach ann 'n uair a bha i 'm Muile a rinn i 'n t-òran ciatach sin ris an abrar "Luinneag Mhic Leòid" ? | Was it not when she was in Mull that she composed that fine song called "M'Leod's Ditty" ? |
| 'S ann. | It was. |
| Nach do chuir e bàta 's sgioba g' a toirt dhachaidh 'n uair a chual e mu'n òran so ? | Did he not send a boat and crew to take her home when he heard of this song ? |
| Chuir, ach bha òrdugh aca gun a toirt air bòrd gus an gealladh i nach deanadh i tuilleadh òran. | He did, but they had orders not to take her on board until she promised that she would make no more songs. |
| An d'thug i 'n gealladh a dh'iarradh orra ? | Did she give the promise that was required of her ? |
| Thug, 'us fhuair i dhachaidh. | She did, and was allowed to go home. |
| An do ghleidh i 'gealladh ? | Did she keep her promise ? |
| Rinn i òran do mhac do Mhac Leòid, agus 'n uair a chronaicheadh i air a shon thubhairt i "Cha n-òran a th'ann ; cha n-'eil ann ach crònan." | She made a song to a son of M'Leod, and when reproved for it she said, "It is not a song ; it is only a croon ". |
| An urrainn duibh dad de dh'eachdraidh *Iain Luim*, bàrd Lochabair, a thoirt dhomh ? | Can you give me anything of the history of John Lom, the Lochaber bard ? |
| 'S e Dòmhnullach a bh' ann de theaghlach na Ceapaich. | He was a MacDonald of the family of Keppoch. |
| 'D é 'n linn 's an robh e beo ? | In what age did he live ? |
| Ann an linn a' cheud 's an dara Teàrlaich, 's 'n a déigh. | In the age of the first and second Charles, and after it. |
| Chuala mi gu'n robh e 'n a charaid eudmhor do na Stiùbhartaich. | I heard that he was a zealous friend of the Stewarts. |
| Bha, agus 'n a nàmhaid guineach do rìgh Uilleam 's d'a chàirdean, na Caimbeulaich. | He was and a bitter enemy to King William and his friends, the Campbells. |

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| Nach e 'sheòl feachd Mhontròse do dh'Inbher-lòchaidh a chumail còmhdhail ris na Caimbeulaich ? | Was it not he that guided Montrose's army to Inverlochy to meet the Campbells ? |
| 'S e ; agus 's e 'rinn an t-òran ainmeil sin mu'n bhlàr ris an abrar "La Inbher-lòchaidh". | Yes ; and it was he that composed that celebrated song about the battle, called "The day of Inverlochy". |
| 'D e 'n seòrsa duine 'bh' ann ? | What kind of man was he ? |
| Bha e 'n a dhuine geur-chuiseach, dàn, gramail, fiosrach mu ghnothaichean na linne buaireasaich 's an robh e beò. | He was a sagacious, bold, resolute man, well-informed as to the affairs of the turbulent age in which he lived. |
| C'uin a chaochail e ? | When did he die ? |
| Mu'n bhliadhna 1710. | About the year 1710. |
| Bha e aois mhòr 'n uair a chaochail e. | He was a great age when he died. |
| Bruinidh sinn a nis mu *Alastair Dòmhnullach*, ris an abrar *Mac Mhaighstir Alastair.* | We shall now speak about Alexander MacDonald, called the son of Mr. Alexander. |
| Rugadh e ann am Mùideart mu'n bhliadhna 1700. | He was born in Muideart about the year 1700. |
| Bha 'athair 'n a mhinisteir de'n Eaglais Easbuigeach ann an Ardnamurchan. | His father was a minister of the Episcopal Church in Ardnamurchan. |
| 'D e bu dreuchd dha-fhéin ? | What was his own profession ? |
| Bha e 'n a mhaighstir-sgoil sgìreachd 'an Ardnamurchan, 's 'n a fhoirfeach 's an eaglais. | He was parish schoolmaster in Ardnamurchan, and an elder in the church. |
| Dh'fheumadh gu'n robh sgoil mhath aige. | He must have been a good scholar. |
| Fhuair e 'ionnsachadh ann an oilthigh Ghlascho. | He was educated in Glasgow College. |
| Nach do thionndaidh e ris a' Chreideamh Phàpanach ? | Did he not turn to the Popish religion ? |
| Thionndaidh 'n uair a dh'fhalbh e le Prionnsa Teàrlach 's a' bhliadhna 1745. | He did when he went away with Prince Charles in the year 1745. |
| Nach e 'rinn "Oran nam Fineachan Gàidhealach" agus "Allt an t-siùcair" ? | Was it not he that composed "The Song of the Highland Clans," and the "Sugar Brook" ? |
| 'S e, agus "Am Breacan Uallach," "Fàilte na Mor-thir," "A Bhanarach Dhonn," "Beannachadh Luinge," agus mòran a bharrachd. | Yes, and "The Light Plaid," "Hail to Mòrir," "The Brown-haired dairymaid," "The Blessing of a Ship," and many more. |
| Co dhiù 's e-féin no *Donnachadh Bàn Mac-an-t-Saoir* am bàrd a 's fheàrr ? | Whether is he or fair-haired Duncan MacIntyre the better poet ? |
| Cha n-'eil mi ro chinnteach. | I am not very sure. |

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| Tha iad le chéile 'n am bàird chumhachdach. | They are both powerful poets. |
| Tha Donnachadh Bàn na's fhusa 'thuigsinn. | Duncan Bàn is more easily understood. |
| Tha tuilleadh fhocal ann am bàrdachd an Dòmhnullaich a chaidh a cleachdadh. | There are more obsolete words in MacDonald's poetry. |
| C'àit an d'rugadh Donnachadh Bàn ? | Where was Duncan Bàn born ? |
| Rugadh e 'an Druimliaghairt 'an Gleann-urchaidh, 's a' bhliadhna 1724. | He was born in Drimliart in Glenorchy, in the year 1724. |
| Dh'innseadh dhomh nach b'urrainn, da aona chuid leubhadh no sgrìobhadh. | I was told that he could neither read nor write. |
| Cha b'urrainn, ach bha meodhar cho math aige 's nach do dhìchuimhnich e focal de na h-òrain a rinn e. | He could not, but he had so good a memory that he did not forget a word of the songs that he composed. |
| An robh ceàird sam bith aige ? | Had he any trade ? |
| Bha e 'n toiseach 'n a fhrìthear do Mhorair Bhraid-Albainn 'an Coire-cheathaich 's am Beinn-dòrain, agus an déigh sin do Dhiùc Earraghàidheal 'am Buachaill Eite. | He was first forester to Lord Breadalbane in Coire-cheathaich and Bendorain, and afterwards to the Duke of Argyll in Buachaill Eite. |
| Nach robh e 's an arm ? | Was he not in the army ? |
| 'N uair a bha e 'n a dhuin' òg bha e le Còirneal Caimbeul Choire-chumhan 'am blàr na H-Eaglaise Brice. | When he was a young man he was with Colonel Campbell of Corwhin at the battle of Falkirk. |
| Bha e o 'n bhliadhna 1793 gus a' bhliadhna 1799 ann am *Fencibles* Mhorair Bhraid-albainn. | He was from the year 1793 to the year 1799 in Lord Breadalbane's Fencibles. |
| Bha e na h-uibhir a bhlianaichean am am Freiceadan baile Dhunéideann. | He was several years in the City Guard of Edinburgh. |
| C'uin a chaochail e ? | When did he die ? |
| 'S a' bhliadhna 1812. | In the year 1812. |
| 'S iad na h-òrain a 's fhearr a rinn e "Beinn-dòrain," "Coire-cheathaich," agus "A Mhàiri Bhàn Og." | The best songs that he composed are "Bendorain," "Coire-cheathaich," and "Young Fair Mary". |
| Nach d'eadar-theangaich *Professor Blackie* "Beinn-dòrain" gu Beurla ? | Did not Professor Blackie translate "Bendorain" into English ? |
| Dh'eadar-theangaich. | He did. |
| Dh'innseadh dhomh gu'm bheil e anabarrach grinn air a dheanamh. | I have been told that it is very finely done. |

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| Tha e ; 's ainmic a leubh mi eadar-theangachadh a dh'fhaodar a choimeas ris. | It is ; I have seldom read a translation to be compared with it. |
| C'àit am faic mi e ? | Where shall I see it ? |
| 'N a leabhar mu'n Ghàelig 's mu bhàird na Gàidhealtachd. | In his book about Gaelic and the Highland bards. |
| Tha mi duilich nach 'eil ùin' agam tuilleadh a ràdh mu na bàird air an fheasgar so. | I am sorry that I have not time to say more about the bards this evening. |
| Mata gu dearbh cha ruig sibh leas ; fhuair mi cheana mòran eòlais uaibh. | Indeed you need not ; I have already received much information from you. |
| 'S e do bheatha. | You are welcome. |
| Na'm biodh agam-sa de mheodhair a chuimhnicheadh e uile ! | If I could only remember it all ! |

**I am indebted in this Conversation to several sources of information.**

## A' BHAN-RIGH 'S AN TEAGHLACH RÌGHEIL,
## THE QUEEN AND THE ROYAL FAMILY.

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| Fàilt' air Donnachadh ruadh ; 'd é 'chuir bho'n tigh thu cho tràthail an duigh ? | Hail to Duncan roy ; what sent you so early from home to-day ? |
| Chuala mi gu bheil sibh 'dol a chur a stigh mulain, agus thàinig mi 'dh'fheòraich am bi sibh cho math agus an tubhadh a ghleidheil air mo shon. | I heard that you are going to put in a stack, and I have come to ask if you will be so good as keep the thatch for me. |
| Cha n-'eil thar dà mhìos o'n fhuair thu tubhadh nam ; 'd é rinn thu leis ? | It is not more than two months since you got thatch from me ; what did you do with it ? |
| Chuir mi air an tigh e, ach tha na radain air a chur gu tur an dolaidh. | I put it on the house, but the rats have quite destroyed it. |
| 'S ann ri fala-dhà a tha thu. | You are jesting. |
| 'S ann dariribh a tha mi ; tha iad air fàgail mullach an tighe cho tolltach ri criathar. | I am in earnest ; they have left the roof of the house as full of holes as a sieve. |
| Ma 's ann mar sin a tha chùis bithidh na 's leòir de snidh agaibh. | If that is the case you will have enough of rain-drops from the roof. |
| Snidh ! o'n a thòisich an t-uisge cha deachaidh stad air a là no 'dh'oidhche. | Rain-drops ! since the rain began they have not ceased either by day or by night. |
| Bithidh am farum a ni e air feadh an tighe 'n a sheòrsa ciùil shunndaich do d'chluasan. | The noise they make through the house will be a cheerful kind of music to your ears. |
| Tha iomadh seòrsa ciùil ann bu shunndaiche leam, ach chuir- | There are many kinds of music that I would consider more |

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| eadh e sibh-fhéin gu gàireachdaich a bhi 'faicinn an leumraich a bhios oirnn a null 's a nall g' a sheachnadh. | cheerful, but it would make yourself laugh to see us jumping hither and thither to avoid them. |
| Tha eagal orm gu'm bi droch dhìol air earnais 's air aodach. | I am afraid that both furniture and clothes will be badly used. |
| 'N uair a bha mi 'cur orm coilleir glan chum gu'm bithinn mar bu chòir dhomh 'n uair a thiginn 'n 'ur làthair-sa thàinig boinne nuas a dh'fhàg comharadh odhar cho mòr ri bonn tasdain air an anart ghrinn, gheal. | When I was putting on a clean collar that I might appear in your presence as I should do, a drop came down that left a dun mark as large as a shilling piece on the fine white linen. |
| Tha 'leithid sin gu math deuchainneach air foighidinn duine. | That sort of thing is pretty trying to one's patience. |
| 'S math nach robh sibh 's an éisdeachd 'n uair a thachair e, oir bha mi 'n sin "cho fiata ri broc liath a bhiodh 'an garaidh". | It is well that you were not within hearing when it happened, for I was at the time as fierce as a grey badger in his den. |
| Cha n-iongantach leam idir gu'n robh. | I am not at all surprised that you were. |
| Saoil sibh ciod a thàinig air Noah 'n uair a leig e na radain a stigh do'n àirc? | What, think you, came over Noah when he admitted the rats into the ark? |
| Sin rud nach do ghabh mi-fhéin riamh fo m' bheachd. | That is a matter that I have never taken into consideration. |
| Tha amharus agam, ach cha n-abair mi 'bheag. | I have a suspicion, but I shall say nothing. |
| Dh'innseadh dhomh gu'n robh thu 's an Oban an dé. | I was told that you were in Oban yesterday. |
| Chaidh mi sìos a cheannach snath' a chàradh nan lìon agus a phàigheadh beagan gheòtan a bh'aig na ceannaichean 'am aghaidh. | I went down to buy thread to mend the net, and to pay a few trifling debts that the shopkeepers had against me. |
| Agus ciamar a tha baile na h-àilleachd? | And how is the town of beauty? |
| Tha e'n sud mar bha e riamh o'n is cuimhne leam-sa e, 'n a thàmh ri taobh na mara 's aig bun a' mhonaidh. | It is yonder as it was ever since I remember it, resting by the sea-side and at the foot of the hill. |
| Tha mi 'cluinntinn gu bheil sùrd anabarrach ann an dràs leis an each-iaruinn. | I hear that there is great activity in it at present with the iron horse. |
| Ciamar air bith a tha sin bha e 'n dé cho sàmhach ris a' ghleann uaigneach againn-fhéinn. | However that is, it was yesterday as quiet as our own solitary glen. |

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| Ciod a b'aobhar d' a sin ? | What was the cause of that ? |
| B'e 'n dé la co-ainm breith na Ban-righ, agus bha na bùithean dùinte. | Yesterday was the anniversary of the Queen's birthday, and the shops were shut. |
| Ciamar a chuir thu seachad d'ùine ? | How did you spend your time ? |
| Bha mi 'steòcaireachd feadh a' bhaile gus an tilleadh air an t-sruth. | I was sauntering idly through the town till the tide should turn. |
| Tha mi cinnteach gu'm facadh tu iomadh ni 'thug toil-inntinn duit. | I am sure that you saw many things that gratified you. |
| A dh'innseadh na fìrinn cha do ghabh mi mòran aire de dh'aon ni a chunnaic mi. | To tell the truth, I did not pay much attention to anything that I saw. |
| Nach do ghabh ? | Did you not ? |
| 'N uair a chuala mi na brataichean bàn-dearg a' plabraich 's a' ghaoith thàinig na làithean a dh'fhalbh agus gu sònraichte a' Bhan-righ 's an Teaghlach Rìgheil 'am smuaintean. | When I heard the red and white banners fluttering in the wind, the days that are gone, and especially the Queen and the Royal Family, came into my thoughts. |
| Tha fhios agam gu bheil inntinn smuaineachail agad. | I know that you have a thoughtful mind. |
| Am bheil fhios agaibh gu'n d'thàinig rugha 'am ghruaidh 'n uair a thug mi fanear cho aineolach 's a tha mi air eachdraidh an teaghlaich inbheich so ? | Do you know that I blushed when I considered how ignorant I am of the history of this exalted family. |
| Tha na 's leòir de dhaoine ionn-saichte 's an t-suidheachadh cheudna. | Plenty of educated people are similarly situated. |
| Bha mi feòruich de'n mhaighstir-sgoil mu'n chuis an là roimhe. | I inquired of the schoolmaster about the subject the other day. |
| An d'fhuair thu fiosrachadh uaithe. | Did you get information from him ? |
| Cha d'fhuair ; agus dh'aithnich mi air an oighr' òg nach fhaighinn dad uaithe-san. | I did not ; and I knew by the young heir that I would not get any-thing from him. |
| Tha sin dìreach mar shaoilinn ; cha n-'eil daoine 's an linn so cho déidheil air sloinnteireachd 's a bha iad 's an linn a thàinig roimpe. | That is exactly as I would suppose ; people in the present age are not so fond of genealogy as they were in the preceding age. |
| Cha robh 's an dùthaich duin' aig an robh tuilleadh fiosrachaidh de'n t-seòrsa sin na m'athair. | There was not a man in the country who had more knowledge of that kind than my father. |
| 'S iomadh uair a shuidh mi 'g a éisdeachd ag innseadh eachd-raidh theaghlaichean na dùth-cha. | Many a time I sat listening to him while he related the history of the families of the country. |

Bha meoghair anabharrach aige.
He had an excellent memory.

Bha, agus rinn e buil mhath dhi.
He had, and he made good use of it.

An innis sibh dhomh c'uin a rugadh a' Bhan-righ Bhictoria ?
Will you tell me when Queen Victoria was born ?

Rugadh i air a' cheathramh là fichead de cheud mhìos an t-samhraidh 's a' bhliadhna 1819.
She was born on the twenty-fourth day of the first month of summer, in the year 1819.

Co 'b'athair dhi ?
Who was her father ?

Bha Diùc *Kent*, ceathramh mac an treas rìgh Deòrsa.
The Duke of Kent, the fourth son of the third King George.

Co 'bu mhàthair dhi ?
Who was her mother ?

Bha Bhictoria, Bana-Phrionnsa *Shaxe-Coburg*, piuthar Leopold, rìgh nam Belgianach, agus piuthar Earnest, Diùc Choburg.
Victoria, Princess of Saxe-Coburg, sister of Leopold, King of the Belgians, and sister of Ernest, Duke of Coburg.

C'uin a chaochail a h-athair ?
When did her father die ?

A' bhliadhna 'n déigh dhi-se 'bhi air a breith.
The year after she was born.

Nach robh teaghlach idir aig bràthair a h-athar, rìgh Uilleam ?
Had her father's brother, King William, no family ?

Bha, ach chaochail iad 'n an òige.
He had, but they died in their youth.

C'uin a thàinig i 'dh'ionnsuidh na rìgh-chaithreach ?
When did she come to the throne ?

'S a' bhliadhna 1837, 'n uair a chaochail rìgh Uilleam.
In the year 1837, when King William died.

C'àit an robh i air a crùnadh ?
Where was she crowned ?

Ann an Abait *Westminster* an làthair mhaithean 'us fhlaithean na rìgheachd.
In Westminster Abbey, in presence of the nobles and lords of the kingdom.

Bu trom an t-uallach a chaidh a leagail air neach cho òg.
Heavy was the burden that was laid on one so young.

B'eadh, ach bha luchd-comhairl' aice 'g a stiùradh.
Yes, but she had counsellors guiding her.

Co iad luchd-comhairle na Ban-righ ?
Who are the Queen's counsellors ?

Iadsan a tha o àm gu àm air an taghadh gu bhi 'n an luchd-riaghlaidh air gnothaichean na rìgheachd.
Those who are from time to time chosen to rule the affairs of the kingdom.

Co 'tha 'g an taghadh ?
Who chooses them ?

Tha 'Bhan-righ 'g an taghadh as a' bhuidheann a 's làidire 's a 's lìonmhoire 's a' Pharlamaid.
The Queen chooses them from the strongest and most numerous party in Parliament.

Ciamar a chuirear as an dreuchd iad 'n uair a dh'fhàsas a Pharlamaid neo-thoilichte leo ?
How are they deprived of office when Parliament becomes dissatisfied with them ?

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| 'N uair a bhios tuilleadh 'n an aghaidh 's a' Pharlamaid na bhios leo cha n-urrainn iad seasamh. | When more are opposed to them in Parliament than are favourable to them they cannot stand. |
| Nach fhaod iad an greim a ghleidh-eil gun taing do'n fheadhainn a tha 'n an aghaidh ? | May they not retain their hold in spite of those that are opposed to them ? |
| Cha n-fhaod, a chionn gu'n diùltar airgiod dhoibh gu gnothaich-ean na rìgheachd a chur air aghaidh. | They may not, because money will be refused to them to carry on the affairs of the kingdom. |
| Tha mi 'tuigsinn ; is mòr cumhachd an airgid. | I understand ; great is the power of money. |
| Abraibh gu'n téid ni sam bith air aimhreit co a choirichear, a' Bhan-righ no a luchd-comh-airle ? | Suppose that anything goes wrong, who is blamed, the Queen or her counsellors ? |
| A luchd-comhairle ; a réir an lagha tha ise gun choire 's na nithe sin. | Her counsellors ; according to the law she is without blame in these things. |
| C'uin a bha 'Bhan-righ agus Prionns' Ailbeart air am pòsadh ? | When were the Queen and Prince Albert married ? |
| Ann an toiseach an earraich 's a' bhliadhna 1840. | In the beginning of spring in the year 1840. |
| Nach robh iad daimheil d' a chéile ? | Were they not related ? |
| Bha ; b' e Prionns' Ailbeart mac Dhiùc Choburg, brathair màthar na Ban-righ. | They were ; Albert was son to the Duke of Coburg, brother to the Queen's mother. |
| Ciod am mùthadh a bha eatorra a thaobh aois ? | What difference was there between them as regards age ? |
| Bha 'm Prionnsa trì mìosan na 's òige na 'Bhan-righ. | The Prince was three months younger than the Queen. |
| An robh dreuchd sam bith aige ann an riaghladh na rìgheachd ? | Had he any office in the government of the kingdom ? |
| Cha robh. | He had not. |
| Is cinnteach mi nach b'urrainn duine cho math ris 'ùine chur seachad 'an diamhanas. | I am sure that so good a man could not have spent his time in idleness. |
| Bha e gun tàmh a' deanamh math. | He was constantly doing good. |
| 'D é 'n teaghlach a bh'aca ? | What family had they ? |
| Còignear nighean agus ceathrar mhac. | Five daughters and four sons. |
| C'uin a rugadh Prionnsa *Wales* no na Cuimrig, oighr' a' chrùin ? | When was the Prince of Wales, heir to the crown, born ? |
| Rugadh e 's a' bhliadhna 1841. | He was born in the year 1841. |
| 'S e Ailbeart Edward no Imhear is ainm dha. | His name is Albert Edward. |
| Co ris a tha e pòsda ? | To whom is he married ? |

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| Ris a Bhana-Phrionnsa, *Alexandra*, nighean a's sine rìgh *Dhenmark* agus piuthar rìgh na Gréige. | To the Princess Alexandra, eldest daughter of the King of Denmark and sister to the King of Greece. |
| Tha Alfred, an dara mac, pòsda ris a' Bhan-diùc, Mairi, nighean Impire *Russia*. | Alfred, the second son, is married to the Duchess Mairi, daughter of the Emperor of Russia. |
| Nach ann air a' mhuir a tha esan ? | Is he not at sea ? |
| 'S ann ; tha long-chogaidh fo 'cheannardachd ? | He is ; a ship of war is under his command. |
| 'S iad Artair 'us Leopold an dà mhac a 's òige. | Arthur and Leopold are the two youngest sons. |
| Tha Bhictoria, a' Bana-Phrionnsa Rìgheil, pòsda ri Frederick Uilleam, Prionnsa *Phrussia*. | Victoria, the Princess Royal, is married to Frederick William, Prince of Prussia. |
| Bha 'n dara nighean, Alice, nach maireann, pòsda ri Frederick Uilliam, Prionnsa *Hesse*. | The second daughter, Alice, who is not alive, was married to Frederick William, Prince of Hesse. |
| Tha 'n treas nighean, Helena, pòsda ri Frederick, Prionnsa na dùthcha ris an abrar *Schleswig-holstein*. | The third daughter, Helena, is married to Frederick, Prince of the country called Schleswig-holstein. |
| Tha 'cheathramh nighean, Louise, pòsda, mar tha fhios aig gach Gàidheal, ri Marcus Lathurna, Ard-uacharan Chanada. | The fourth daughter, Louise, is married, as every Highlander knows, to the Marquis of Lorne, Governor of Canada. |
| Tha 'n nighean a 's òige, Beatrice, gun bhi pòsda. | The youngest daughter, Beatrice, is unmarried. |
| C'àit am bheil a' Bhan-righ mar is bidheant' a chòmhnuidh ? | Where does the Queen generally reside ? |
| Ann an Lùchairt *Windsor*, trì mìle fichead a mach a Lunnuinn. | In Windsor Palace, twenty-three miles out from London. |
| C'àit am bi i 'fuireach 'n uair a bhios i 'an Lunnuinn ? | Where does she stay when she is in London ? |
| Ann an Lùchairt *Bhuckingham*. | In Buckingham Palace. |
| Tha tigh eil' aic' 'an Lunnuinn ris an abrar *St. James's*. | She has another house in London called *St. James's*. |
| Tha àit' aice ris an abrar *Osborne* ann an Eilean *Wight*. | She has a place called Osborne in the Isle of Wight. |
| 'S iad *Holyrood* an Dun-éideann agus *Bhaile-mhorair* an siorramachd Abaraidhean na h-àitean-còmhnuidh a th'aic' 'an Albainn. | Holyrood in Edinburgh, and Balmoral in Aberdeenshire, are her residences in Scotland. * |
| Tha mi 'cluinntinn gu bheil i fìor thoigheach air Baile-mhorair. | I hear that she is very fond of Balmoral. |

* For some facts and dates above I am indebted to "Sequel to No. IV. Royal School Series".

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| Tha ; 's ann ann is àbhaist di 'm fogharadh 'chur seachad. | She is ; it is there that she is in the habit of spending the harvest. |
| Nach do chuir i 'mach leabhar anns am bheil i 'toirt cunntais air a beatha 's a' Ghàidhealtachd ? | Did she not publish a book in which she gives an account of her life in the Highlands ? |
| Chuir, agus bu choir do gach neach 's an rìgheachd a leubhadh. | She did, and every person in the kingdom should read it. |
| Carson ? | Why ? |
| A chionn nach urrainn neach sam bith a leubhadh gun a thairisneachd 's a speis do'n Bhan-righ a bhi air am meudachadh. | Because no one can read it without having his loyalty to and esteem for the Queen increased. |
| Cha n-'eil teagamh nach ann mar a's àird' am meas a bhios aig daoine oirre-se a's coltaiche dhoibh a bhi toilichte foipe agus dìleas di. | There is no doubt that the higher the respect people have for her the more likely they are to be contented under her and faithful to her. |
| Anns an leabhar so chithear i 'n a mnaoi, 'n a màthair, 'n a nighinn, agus 'n a caraid dleasnach. | In this book she will be seen in the character of a dutiful wife, mother, daughter, and friend. |
| Na'm biodh am Freasdal cho caoimhneil 'us a càirdeas a chur an rathad so cha' n-ann 'an tigh snidheach a bhiodh Màiri 'us mise. | If Providence were so kind as to send her friendship this way, Mary and I would not be in a leaky house. |
| Chithear i a' nochdadh co-fhulangais leis a mhuinntir a tha ann an uireasbhuidh 's 'an amhghar, a' taoghal ann an tighean nam bochd, a' co-aontachadh leis an t-sluagh 'n am fearas-chuideachd, a' cumail conaltraidh shuairce r' a seirbheisich, a' dìreadh bheanntan, a' dol thar aibhnichean, a' leigeil fhaicinn air iomadh dòigh gu bheil cridhe blàth aice agus inntinn bhunailteach. | She will be seen showing sympathy with those who are in want and affliction, visiting in the houses of the poor, joining the people in their amusements, holding affable conversation with her servants, ascending mountains, crossing rivers, showing in many ways that she has a warm heart, and a constant mind. |
| Is mòr am beannachadh do'n dùthaich a leithid a bhi air an rìghchathair. | It is a great blessing to the country to have such as she on the throne. |

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# CÒMHRAIDHEAN 'AN GÀELIG 'S 'AM BEURLA.

## A' GHÀELIG, GAELIC.

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| Tha sibhse ri leabhranachd, mar is àbhaist. | You are engaged with books as usual. |
| Tha leabhraichean dhomh-sa mar tha 'acfhuinn do'n fhear-cheàird. | Books are to me, as his tools are to the tradesmen. |
| Tha mis' air tighinn oirbh mar an sneachd, gun sireadh, gun iarraidh. | I have come upon you like the snow, unsought, and unasked for. |
| Cha n-'eil idir; tha obair an là seachad agam. | Not at all; my day's work is over. |
| Co dhiù 's i 'Ghàelig no 'Bheurla, an Laidionn no 'Ghreugais a tha sibh a' cnuasachd an dràs? | Whether are you studying Gaelic or English, Latin or Greek, at present? |
| A' Ghàelig. | Gaelic. |
| Cha n-fhaod e bhi nach 'eil sibh coimh-liont' innte mu 'n àm so. | Surely you are perfect in it by this time. |
| Cha n-urrainn domh a ràdh gu bheil. | I cannot say that I am. |
| Cha n-'eil sibhse furasd' a thoileachadh. | You are not easily satisfied. |
| Tha 'Ghàelig 'us cànainean am bidheantas mar thobar nach traodh. | Gaelic and languages in general are like an exhaustless spring. |
| Cha n-'eil mi uile gu léir 'g 'ur tuigsinn. | I do not quite understand you. |
| Tha mi 'ciallachadh gu bheil mòran aig neach r' a fhòghlum mu 'n ruig e air làn eòlas cia b' air bith cho fada 's a dh' fhaodas e bhi 'g an cnuasachd. | I mean that one has much to learn before he attains to full knowledge, however long he may be studying them. |
| Saoil sibh ciod is ciall do 'n othail a tha mu 'n Ghàelig o cheann beagan bhliadhnaichean? | What do you think is the meaning of the stir that there has been about Gaelic for some years? |
| Tha daoine fòghluimte air dùsgadh gu mothachadh air a luach. | Learned men have awakened to a sense of its value. |
| Mata bu mhithich dhoibh; 's iomadh là 'chuir iad suarach i. | It was time for them; they treated it with indifference for many a day. |

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| Tha cuid déidheil air seadh ainmeanan àiteachan fhaotainn a mach, agus cha bhuadhaich iad gun a' Ghàelig. | Some are desirous to find out the meaning of the names of places, and they will not succeed without Gaelic. |
| Nach 'eil ainmeanan Gàelig air mòran àiteachan 's a' Ghalldachd 's 'an Sasunn cho math 'us anns a' Ghàidhealtachd ? | Do not many places in the Lowlands and in England, as well as in the Highlands, bear Gaelic names ? |
| Tha. | Yes. |
| Tha feadhainn eile toigheach air sgeulachdan 'us dàin a chruinneachadh, agus air eòlas fhaotainn air seana chleachdainnean. | Others are fond of collecting tales and poems, and of obtaining a knowledge of ancient customs. |
| Cha mhò 'ni iadsan a' bheag de mhath as eugmhais na Gàelig. | Neither will they do any good without Gaelic. |
| Tha feadhainn eil' ann a tha 'gabhail tlachd ann an lorgachadh na daimhe 'tha eadar a' Ghàelig 'us cànainean eile. | Others take pleasure in tracing the affinity that subsists between Gaelic and other languages. |
| Is cinnteach mi nach 'eil sin furasd' a dheanamh. | I am sure that that is not easily done. |
| Cha n-'eil ; cha n- e 'h-uile duine fòghluimte 'tha murrach air. | It is not ; it is not every learned man that can do it. |
| Cuiridh sibh comain mhòr orm ma bheir sibh dhomh fiosrachadh mu 'n chùis. | You will oblige me very much by giving me information about the matter. |
| Feuchaidh mi ri beagan de na leubh mi m' a déibhinn a chur mu d' choinneamh. | I will endeavour to set before you a little of what I have read about it. |
| 'S sibh-fhéin an t-aon neach a tha mi 'faotainn toileach gu m' chuideachadh 'n am thòir air eòlas. | You are yourself the only one whom I find willing to help me, in my search after knowledge. |
| Thoir leat 's a' cheud dol a mach gu bheil cànainean an t-saoghail air an roinn 'n an teaghlaichibh. | Carry away with you at the outset, that the languages of the world are divided into families. |
| C' ainm a th' air an teaghlach d' am buin a' Ghàelig ? | What is the name of the family that Gaelic belongs to ? |
| An *Aryan* no 'n *Indo-European.* | The Aryan or Indo-European. |
| An ainmich sibh na cànainean d' am bheil an teaghlach so air a dheanamh suas ? | Will you name the languages of which this family is composed ? |
| Thig mi dh' ionnsuidh sin an ceart uair. | I will come to that presently. |
| Tha mi 'g iarraidh maitheanais. | I beg pardon. |
| 'N uair a sgaoil an sluagh a bha 'bruidhinn na cànain bu mhàthair do na cànainean a thàinig a nuas g' ur n-ionns- | When the people that spoke the mother tongue of the languages that have come down to us dispersed, some of them went east- |

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| uidh-ne chaidh cuid dhiubh an ear do na H-Innsean agus cuid eile dhiubh an iar do 'n Roinn-Eòrpa. | ward to the Indies, and others of them went westward to Europe. |
| 'D e 'n dùthaich as an do sgaoil iad ? | From what country did they disperse. |
| Tha e coltach gur h-ann a *Persia* a sgaoil iad. | It is probable that it was from Persia that they dispersed. |
| C' ainm a th' air a' chànain a bh' aig an sgaoth dhiubh a chaidh do na H-Innsean ? | What is the name of the language spoken by the swarm of them that went to India ? |
| An *Sanscrit.* | The Sanscrit. |
| Am bheil a' chànain so air a bruidhinn fhathast ? | Is this language spoken still ? |
| Cha n-'eil, ach tha i air mhaireann ann an leabhraichean. | It is not, but it survives in books. |
| 'Dé na cànainean eile 'bhuineas do'n teaghlach so ? | What other languages belong to this family ? |
| Tha againn an toiseach na cànainean mòra sin—a' Ghreugais 's an Laidionn. | We have first these great languages —the Greek and Latin. |
| 'S fhad' o 'n bhàsaich iad sin. | It is long since these died. |
| Tha 'Ghreugais fhathast beò, slàn, ach tha mòran cheudan de bhliadhnaichean o 'n sguir an Laidionn a bhi air a bruidhinn. | Greek is still living and healthy, but Latin ceased to be spoken many hundreds of years ago. |
| An d' fhàg an Laidionn sliochd 'n a déigh ? | Did Latin leave a family behind it. |
| 'S i 'dh' fhàg. | That it did. |
| An ainmich sibh iad ? | Will you name its members ? |
| Cànain na H- Eadailt, na Spàinte, Phortugall, na Frainge, agus corra 'h- aon eile. | The Language of Italy, of Spain, of Portugal, of France, and a few others. |
| Am bheil tuilleadh chànainean ann a bhuineas do 'n *Aryan ?* | Are there more languages that belong to the *Aryan ?* |
| Buinidh dhi a' Bheurla, cainnt na Gearmailt, Ruisia, Pholand, Bhulgaria, Bhohemia, Shervia, &c. | There belong to it the English, German, Russian, Polish, Bulgarian, Bohemian, Servian, &c. |
| Air m' fhocal cha n-'eil aobhar aig a' Ghàelig nàir' a ghabhail d' a luchd-daimh. | Upon my word, Gaelic has no reason to be ashamed of its kindred. |
| Tha Raonull, Mac Eachainn, aig an dorus, ag iarraidh bruidhinn ruibh. | Ronald, son of Hector, is at the door, wishing to speak to you. |
| Thoir a stigh e do sheòmar na dìnneireach. | Bring him in to the dining room. |
| Bithidh mi air m' ais a chlisgeadh. | I shall be back presently. |
| Na cuiribh cabhag sam bith oirbh-fhéin air mo shon-sa. | Do not hurry yourself on my account. |

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| An saoil sibh am bheil a' Ghàelig air a cothlamadh le focail o chànainean eile ? | Do you think that Gaelic is mixed with words from other languages ? |
| Tha ann an tomhas, ach tha na 's lugha de dh' fhacail choigreach innte na anns a' chuid a 's mò de chànainean na Roinn-Eòrpa. | Yes in a measure, but there are fewer foreign words in it than in most of the languages of Europe. |
| Cia as a fhuair i na facail sin ? | Whence did it receive these words ? |
| Fhuair i 'chuid mhòr dhìubh o 'n Laidinn. | It got the most of them from Latin. |
| Ciamar a fhuair iad a stigh innte ? | How did they gain admittance into it ? |
| Trid cumhachd cléir' eaglais na Roimhe. | Through the influence of the clergy of the Church of Rome. |
| 'S ainneamh ni anns nach bi làmh aig a' chléir. | There are few things in which the clergy have not a hand. |
| Anns na h- amanan dorcha o shean bha cumhachd mòr aca ann an nithe aimseireil cho math 'us ann an nithe spioradail. | In the dark times of old, they had great influence in temporal as well as in spiritual matters. |
| 'S e mo bharail-fhéin nach 'eil e chum buannachd do chléir eaglais sam bith a bhi' gabhail mòran gnothuich ri nithe aimseireil. | It is my own opinion that it is not of advantage to the clergy of any Church to interfere much in temporal matters. |
| B'iad luchd-comhairle righrean 'us luchd-teagaisg an t-sluaigh, agus is gann a bha eòlas no fòghlum 's an dùthaich ach na bha 'n am measg-sau. | They were the counsellors of kings, and the teachers of the people, and there was scarcely any knowledge or learning in the land, except what was among them. |
| Cha n- iongantach, uime sin, ged fhuair iad uiread buaidh' air a' Ghàelig 's gu'm b' éigin di facail a ghabhail o 'n Laidinn. | It is not to be wondered at, therefore, that they so prevailed over Gaelic as to compel it to receive words from Latin. |
| Am bi sibh cho math agus cuid de na facail sin ainmeachadh ? | Will you be so good as name some of these words ? |
| So cuid dhiubh 'an Gaelig 's 'an Laidinn:—coisrig—consecrare, sagairt—sacerdos, easbuig—episcopus, coguis—conscientia, faosaid — confessio, creid — credo, cill—cella. | Here are some of them in Gaelic and Latin : — coisrig — consecrare, sagairt — sacerdos, easbuig — episcopus, coguis—conscientia, faosaid — confessio, creid — credo, cill—cella. |
| Bheir thu fanear gu bheil a' chuid a 's mò de na facail Laidinn air an giorrachadh 's a' Ghàelig. | You will observe that the most of the Latin words are shortened in Gaelic. |

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| An d' thàinig facail a stigh do 'n Ghàelig o chànainean sam bith eile? | Did words enter Gaelic from any other languages? |
| Thàinig a' bheag no 'mhòr o chainnt nan Lochlannach. | Fewer or more entered it from the Scandinavian language. |
| Cha ruig mi leas 'innseadh dhuit gu bheil facail 's a' Ghàelig a fhuair i o 'n Bheurla. | I need not tell you that there are words in Gaelic that it received from English. |
| Tha sin soilleir do n-a h-uile duine. | That is apparent to every man. |
| An innis sibh dhomh ciod a' chainnt a 's dluithe daimh do 'n Ghàelig? | Will you tell me what language has the closest affinity to Gaelic? |
| An Laidionn. | Latin. |
| An déigh na Laidinn 's iad na cainntean a 's daimheile dhi cainnt na Gearmailt agus a' Bheurla mar bha i mu 'n robh i air a truailleadh le facail o chainntean eile. | After Latin the languages that have the closest affinity to Gaelic are German, and English as it was before it was corrupted with words from other languages. |
| Am bheil daimh idir aig a' Ghàelig ris a' Ghreugais? | Has Gaelic any affinity with Greek? |
| Tha, ach tha e na 's fhaide 'mach na ris an trì eile. | Yes, but it is more remote than with the other three. |
| Ciamar a nithear a mach gu bheil an daimh so eadar a' Ghàelig agus na cainntean sin? | How can it be made out that this affinity subsists between Gaelic and these languages? |
| Gabh beachd air cho cosmhuil 's a tha na facail so ri 'chéile:—aon—unus, dà—duo, trì—tres, ochd—octo, mìle—mille, sèa—sex, seachd—septem, agus mar sin sios. | Mark how like these words are to each other:—aon—unus, dà—duo, trì—tres, ochd—octo, mìle—mille, sèa—sex, seachd—septem, and so forth. |
| Buinidh na facail sin do 'n Ghàelig cho math 'us do 'n Laidinn; 's leis an teaghlach 'an coitchiontas iad. | These words belong to Gaelic as well as to Latin; they are the general property of the family. |
| Cha n-'eil teagamh nach buill iad de 'n aon teaghlach. | There is no doubt that they are members of the same family. |
| Am bheil dad r' a fhaotainn ann an *Grammar* na Gàelig a tha cosmhuil ris na gheibhear ann an *Grammar* nan cainntean eile? | Is there anything to be found in Gaelic Grammar resembling what may be found in the Grammar of the other languages? |
| Tha beagan, ach tha e cho mion 's nach 'eil e furasd' a chur ann an Gàelig a thuigeas daoine. | There is a little, but it is so minute that it is not easy to put it into intelligible Gaelic. |
| Chomhairlichinn duit leabhar Phrofessor Blackie mu 'n Ghàelig a leubhadh gu cùramach. | I would recommend to you to read carefully Professor Blackie's book about Gaelic. |

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| Ciod tuilleadh a tha ri ràdh mu 'n chùis ? | What more is there to be said about the matter ? |
| Tha mòran de bhun-fhocail 's a' Ghàelig aig am bheil an leth-bhreacan 's an Laidinn gu sònraichte. | There are many root-words in Gaelic that have their counterparts in Latin especially. |
| An toir sibh dhomh samhlaidhean ? | Will you give me examples ? |
| Gabh iad so :—can—cano, geum—gemo, greigh—grex, tana—tenuis, tìr—terra, bo—bos, beatha—vita, athair—pater, feasgar—vesper, nochd—noctem. | Take these :—can—cano, geum—gemo, greigh — grex, tana—tenuis, tìr — terra, bo—bos, beatha — vita, athair — pater, feasgar — vesper, nochd—noctem. |
| Gheibhear na ceudan d' an leithidibh sin. | Hundreds of such as these may be found. |
| Is airidh a thoirt fanear nach 'eil na facail a tha freagairt d' a chéile 's an dà chainnt daonan a' tòiseachadh leis an aon litir. | It is worthy of consideration that the corresponding words do not always begin with the same letter. |
| Ann an coimeas chànainean, uime sin, tha e feumail a thoirt fanear ciod na fuaimean anns an dara cainnt a tha freagairt do na fuaimean anns a' chainnt eile. | In comparing languages, therefore, it is necessary to consider what sounds in the one language correspond with the sounds in the other. |
| Tha aon cheist eil' agam ri chur ruibh mu 'n dealaich sinn. | I have one other question to put to you before we part. |
| Cluineam i. | Let me hear it. |
| 'D e 'ur barail mu 'n Ghàelig mar chainnt ? | What is your opinion of Gaelic as a language ? |
| Tha i fìor fhreagarrach a chur an céill smuaintean, faireachduinnean, agus uireasbhuidhean gnàthaichte an duine. | It is very well adapted for expressing the ordinary thoughts, feelings, and wants of man. |
| Nach 'eil i freagarrach airson bàrdachd ? | Is it not adapted for poetry ? |
| Tha, agus airson ciùil, sgeòil, sgeulachdan, airson labhairt ri sluagh agus cunntas a thoirt air coltas na cruitheachd. | Yes, and for music, narrative, tales, for oratory and description of the appearances of the creation. |
| Am bheil i freagarrach airson feallsanachd ? | Is it adapted for philosophy ? |
| Cha n-'eil. | It is not. |
| Carson ? | Why ? |
| A chionn nach 'eil facail fhreagarrach innte ? | Because it does not contain suitable words. |
| Ciamar a thachair sin ? | How did that happen ? |
| Chaidh stad a chur air a cinneas. | Its growth has been stopped. |

Am bheil e 'n a comas àireamh a focail a mheudachadh ?

Has it the power of increasing the number of its words ?

Tha gu mòr, agus sin uaipe fèin, gun bhi fo chomain do chanain sam bith eile.

Yes, greatly, and that from itself, without being indebted to any other language.

A bharrachd air sin tha i 'n a cainnt lìomharra, bhinn-fhocl-ach, cheòlmhor.

Moreover, it is a polished, melodious, musical language.

'S e so barail nan daoine fòghluimte a rannsrich a' chùis.

This is the opinion of the learned men that have examined the matter.

Mòran taing 'us buidheachais dhuibh.

Many thanks to you.

Biodh a càirdean uile cho dìleas di 's a tha sibhse 's cha bhi eagal di.

Let all its friends be as faithful to it as you are, and it will have nothing to fear.

" Mhair i fòs
'S cha téid a glòir air chall,
A dh'aindeoin gò
'Us mì-run mòr nan Gall."—*MacDonald.*

## TURUS-IASGAICH, A FISHING EXCURSION.

Rinn mi guth aig an dorus an dé, ach dh'innis an searbhanta dhomh gu'n robh sibh o'n bhaile.

I called at the door yesterday, but the servant told me that you were from home.

Ghabh mi cothrom an là mhaith a dhol a dh'iasgach.

I took the opportunity of the good day to go to fish.

Co dhiù 's ann air a' mhuir no air abhuinn no air loch uisg' a bha sibh ag iasgach ?

Whether was it on the sea or on a river, or on a fresh water lake that you were fishing ?

Bha mi 'g iasgach air Loch Sgamad-ail.

I was fishing on Loch Scamadale.

'S iomadh àite 's an robh mi, tuath 'us deas, an ear 's an iar, ach cha robh mi riamh aig Loch Sgamadail.

I was in many a place, North and South, East and West, but I was never at Loch Scamadale.

Thachair a leithid eile dhomh-fhéin. Bha mi air mullach a' Chùirn-ghuirm 's aig Loch-an-doirb 's an taobh tuath, ach cha robh mi riamh air mullach Chruach-ain no aig Loch Sgamadail gus o chionn ghoirrid.

The like happened to myself. I was on the top of Cairngorm and at Lochendorb in the North, but I was never on the top of Cruachan or at Loch Scamadale till lately.

Is lìonmhor iad a tha eòlach air àiteachan 's air nithe 'tha fad air falbh am feadh a tha iad aineolach air àiteachan 's air nithe a tha dlùth làimh.

There are numbers of persons that are acquainted with places and things that are far off while they are ignorant of places and things that are near at hand.

'S ann mar sin a thachair do dh'iomadh aon a thaobh na Gàelig.

It has been thus with many in regard to Gaelic.

Tha sibh ceart ; gheibhear na ceudan a chaith mòran d'an ùine ag ionnsachadh na Fraingeis agus cainnt na Gearmailt aig nach 'eil smid Ghàelig 'n an ceann ged is i 'chainnt a bh'aig na daoine o'n d'thàinig iad agus a th'aig an t-sluagh a tha iad a' chòmhnuidh 'n am measg.

You are right ; hundreds will be found who have spent much of their time in learning French and German, but who do not know a word of Gaelic, though it is the language that was spoken by those from whom they have sprung, and that is spoken by those among whom they dwell.

'D é 'n rathad a ghabh sibh do Sgamadal ?

What road did you take to Scamadale.

Thog mi ris a' bhrudhach bràigh Bhaile-nodha 's ghabh mi null thar a' mhonaidh.

I struck up the hill above Balino and crossed the moor.

'D é 'n seòrsa rathaid a th'ann ?

What kind of road is it ?

Tha deagh rathad a' fiaradh a suas taobh a' bhrudhaich gu mullach a' mhonaidh, ach cha n-'eil ann an déigh sin ach ceum garbh tro'n fhraoch.

A good road winds along the side of the hill to the top of the moor, but there is only a rough path through the heather after that.

'D é 'n t-astar a tha eadar Baile-nodha 's an loch ?

What distance is there between Balino and the lake.

Theirinn gu bheil mu thuaiream trì mìle gu leth ann.

I should say that there are about three miles and a half.

Cia meud mìle 'tha o so gu ruig an loch ?

How many miles are there from here to the loch ?

Còig mìle, agus trì mìle gu leth—'s e sin ochd mìle gu leth.

Five miles, and three miles and a half, that makes eight miles and a half.

An do mhothaich sibh am bheil coilich 'us cearcan fraoich pailte 's a' mhonadh ?

Did you observe if grouse are plentiful on the moor ?

Tha mi 'm barail gu bheil, oir bha iad ag éiridh 'n an sgaothaibh a h-uile ceann tacain mar chaidh mi air m' aghaidh.

I am of opinion that they are, for they were rising in coveys every now and again as I went forward.

Thar leam-fhéin nach 'eil eun ann a's briadha na'n coileach-fraoich deireadh an fhogharaidh.

I do not think that there is a more elegant bird than the cock grouse in the end of harvest.

Is math is fhiach e 'fhaicinn a' spaisdeireachd air ais 's air aghaidh gu h-uaibhreach air tolman, a chìrean dearg togta 'n àird os ceann a shùilean, agus 'iteach dubh-dhonn a' deàrsadh 's a ghréin.

He is well worth being seen strutting about proudly on a knoll, with his red crest erected above his eyes, and his dark-brown plumage gleaming in the sun.

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| 'D é 'n ùine 'ghabh sibh a' dol a null o Bhaile-nodha ? | What time did you take to cross from Balino. |
| Mu uair an uaireadair, a' coiseachd air mo shocair. | About an hour by the watch, walking at my leisure. |
| Tha de dh'uchdain, de chamhanan, 's de lùban 's na monaidhean 's nach 'eil e furasda coiseachd gu luath tharta. | There are so many steep ascents, hollows, and windings in the moors that is not easy to walk fast over them. |
| 'N uair a ràinig mi 'n taobh thall chunnaic mi sealladh nach dì-chuimhnich mi 'chlisge. | When I reached the other side I saw a sight that I shall not quickly forget. |
| 'D é 'n seòrsa seallaidh a bh'ann ? | What kind of sight was it ? |
| Bha badan de cheò cho geal ris an t-sneachd air mullach Chùirn-liath. | There was a tuft of mist as white as snow on the top of Carn-liath. |
| Chithear sin gu tric air na beanntan. | That is often seen on the mountains. |
| Am feadh a bha mi 'g amharc air thàinig oiteag ghaoithe fodha a reub 'n a stròicean e, a chuibh-ill mu'n cuairt iad air iomadh dòigh iongantach, agus a thog a suas 's an adhar iad, far an deachaidh iad as an t-sealladh. | While I was looking at it a gust of wind came under it that tore it in tatters, whirling them round in many curious fashions, and raising them into the air, where they disappeared. |
| 'D é 'mheudachd a th'anns an loch ? | What is the size of the lake ? |
| Tha è mu dhà mhìl' air fad 's mu cheithreamh mhìl' air leud. | It is about two miles long, and a quarter of a mile broad. |
| Ciamar a tha e air a shuidheachadh ? | How is it situated ? |
| Tha e ann an lag dhomhain eadar na beanntan, a tha 'g éiridh gu cas uaithe, 's iad uaine gu'm mullach. | It lies in a deep hollow between the mountains, that rise abruptly from it and are green to their tops. |
| Am bheil coille a' cinntinn air an cliathaichean ? | Is there wood growing on their flanks ? |
| Cha n-'eil ; na'm biodh cha n-'eil loch 's a' Ghàidhealtachd a bhiodh na b'àillidh na e. | There is not ; if there were there would not be a more beautiful lake in the Highlands. |
| An robh bàt' agaibh 'g a iasgach ? | Had you a boat fishing it ? |
| Bha. | I had. |
| Cuiridh mi geall gu'n d'fhuair sibh i làn uisge. | I'll wager that you found it full of water. |
| Fhuair, agus ghabh mi mu chòig mionaide fichead 'g a taomadh. | Yes, and I took about twenty-five minutes to bale it. |
| 'D e 'n seòrsa taomain a bh'agaibh ? | What kind of baler had you ? |
| Bha cuach-bhleodhain, a fhuair mi o'n mhnaoi cheanalta 'tha 'chòmhnuidh taobh an loch. | A milking-pail that I got from the kind woman who lives by the side of the lake. |

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| Am b'ann 'am meadhon an loch a bha sibh ag iasgach ? | Was it in the middle of the lake that you were fishing ? |
| Cha b'ann ach aig a thaobhan ; tha 'm meadhon tuilleadh 'us domhain. | It was not, but at its sides ; the middle is too deep. |
| 'D é 'n doimhneachd a's freagaraiche ? | What is the most suitable depth ? |
| Eadar ceithir 'us deich troidhean. | Between four and ten feet. |
| Cha b'urrainn duibh iasgach agus iomram aig an aon am. | You could not both fish and row at the same time. |
| Cha b'urrainn, ach leig mi leis a' bhàta falbh leis a' ghaoith, a' toirt làimh air na ràimh an dràs 's a rìs g' a cumail ceart. | I could not, but I let the boat drift with the wind, handling the oars now and again to keep her right. |
| Cia meud breac a ghlac sibh ? | How many trout did you catch ? |
| Fichead. | Twenty. |
| 'D é 'n uine 'ghabh sibh g' an glacadh ? | What time did you take to catch them ? |
| Ghlac mi 'chuid a 's mò dhiubh ann an leth uair. | I caught the most of them in the course of half an hour. |
| Cha robh sibh diomhanach. | You were not idle. |
| Bha iad rè na h-ùine sin a' leum gu sùrdail ceithir thimchioll, agus 's e sin an t-àm a's fheàrr a ghabhas iad. | They were during that time leaping diligently all round, and that is the time when they take best. |
| Am bheil sibh eòlach air òrain Mhic Mhaighstir Alastair ? | Are you acquainted with the songs of the son of Mr. Alexander ? |
| Leugh mi iad uair 'us uair. | I have read them often. |
| Nach bu nadurra 'sheinn e mu na bric ! | How naturally he sang about the trout ! |
| " Na bric a' gearradh shùrdag,<br>Ri plubraich dhlùth le cheil',<br>Taobh-leumraich mear le lùthchleas<br>A bùrn le mùirn ri gréin ;<br>Ri ceapadh chuileag siùbhlach<br><br>Le'm bristeadh lùthmhor fhéin ;<br>Druim lann-ghorm, 's ball-bhreac giùran,<br>'S an lannair-chùil mar léig." | " The trout kept nimbly leaping<br>With merry plunge and play ;<br>Dimpling the burn with sprightly tricks,<br>Warm in the sunny ray,<br>Their blade-blue back and spotted gills<br>Gleamed with gem-like scales ;<br>Then with a dash they snapped the fly<br>That careless wandering sails."<br>(*Pattison*). |
| Bha m'aire cho mòr air an iasgach 's nach do smuainich mi air a' cheithreamh sin. | My attention was so much bent upon the fishing that I did not think of that stanza. |
| 'D é 'n t-àm de'n bhliadhn' a's fheàrr gu iasgach air na lochan sin ? | What is the best season of the year for fishing on these lakes ? |
| An dara agus an treasa mìos de'n t-samhradh. | The second and third months of summer. |

'D é 'n seòrsa là a's freagaraiche airson an iasgaich ?

What kind of day is most suitable for the fishing ?

Là blàth, grianach, le fras uisg' an dràs 's a rìs, agus gaoth an iar.

A warm, sunny day, with a shower of rain now and then, and a west wind.

'D ê 'n seòrsa chuileagan a's freagaraiche ?

What kind of flies are most suitable ?

Ma tha'n là soilleir, gun deò gaoith' ann, 's iad cuileagan beaga, dorcha a's freagaraiche, ach ma tha'n là dorcha, an t-uisge dorcha, agus sgairt mhath ghaoith' ann, feumar cuileagan na's mò's na's soilleire 'ghabhail.

If the day is clear and windless small and dark-coloured flies are the most suitable, but if the day is dark, the water dark, and a smart breeze blowing, larger and lighter coloured flies must be taken.

Mur 'eil an t-iasgair eòlach air an loch feumaidh e seòrsa no dhà fheuchainn gus an amais e air an fheadhainn a fhreagras.

If the fisher is not acquainted with the lake he must try different kinds till he find those that suit.

Tha mòran an earbsa ris an dòigh air an tilgear na cuileagan 's air an tairngear iad tro' 'n uisge.

Much depends on the manner in which the flies are cast and drawn through the water.

'D ê na h-àiteachan a's fheàrr gu iasgach ?

What are the best places for fishing ?

Far am bheil luibhcannach a' cinntinn 'us far am bheil uillt a' dol a stigh do'n loch.

Where weeds grow and where burns enter the lake.*

Am bheil bradain 'an Loch Sgamadail ?

Are there salmon in Loch Scamadale ?

Tha.

There are.

Ciamar a tha iad 'g a ruigheachd ?

How do they reach it ?

Tha iad a' tighinn a nìos air abhuinn Iuchair as a' mhuir 's an earrach agus 's an t-samhradh.

They come up on the river Juchair from the sea in Spring and Summer.

Nach 'eil iad toigheach air a bhi ann an aibhnichean 's 'an lochan ?

Are they not fond of being in rivers and lakes ?

Tha, anabarrach toigheach.

Yes, very fond.

'S iomadh uair a chunnaic mi iad a' leum àirde mòire as an uisge ; 'd é 'tha 'toirt orra sin a dheanamh ?

I have often seen them leap a great height out of the water ; what causes them to do that ?

Tha e coltach gu bheil iad a' leum mar so chum gu'm faigh iad cuite de sheòrsa mial' a th'orra 'n uair a dh'fhàgas iad an fhairge

It is probable that they leap thus in order to get quit of a kind of louse that adheres to them when they leave the sea.

* *The Practical Angler*, by W. C. Stewart.

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| Am faca sibh iad riamh a' leum a suas eas ? | Did you ever see them leap up a fall ? |
| Chunnaic iomadh uair ; is iongantach, bòidheach an sealladh e. | I did many a time ; it is a curious and pretty sight. |
| Ciamar a tha iad a' toirt na h-oidheirp ? | How do they make the attempt ? |
| Tha iad a' lùbadh an cinn gu'n earball, 's a' toirt duileum air an aghart mar dheanamh cearcall cuilce na'm biodh a dhà cheann air an leigeil as. | They bend their head to their tail, and spring forward as a hoop of cane would do if both its ends were released. |
| Nach tric leo tuiteam air an ais ? | Do they not often fall back ? |
| 'S eadh, ma tha'n t-eas car àrd, ach bheir iad ionnsuidh an déigh ionnsuidh air a' mhullach a ruigheachd gus an soirbhich leo, ma tha sin comasach. | Yes, if the fall is rather high, but they will make attempt after attempt to reach the top till they succeed, if that is possible. |
| Cha n-'eil teagamh agam nach robh dileag de Chaol Isle agaibh 's a' chliabh a thoirt beothachaidh dhuibh 'n uair a bhiodh sibh sgìth de thilgeil na driamlaich. | I have no doubt that you had a drop of Caol Isle in the basket to refresh you when tired of throwing the line. |
| Cha robh, ach bha làn searraig agam de *thea* fhuair le siùcar 'us uachdar 'n a mheasg. | I had not, but I had a bottlefull of cold tea mixed with sugar and cream. |
| Cha shaoilinn gu'm biodh an deoch sin aona chuid blasda no beothachail. | I should not suppose that that drink would be either palatable or refreshing. |
| Tha i 'n dà chuid, agus tha mòran 'g a gabhail a roghainn air deoch sam bith eile. | It is both, and many take it in preference to any other drink. |
| 'D é 'n rathad a ghabh sibh a' tighinn dachaidh ? | What road did you take coming home ? |
| Am monadh. | The moor. |
| Tha mi cinnteach gu'n robh sibh sgìth gu leòir 'n uair a ràinig sibh an tigh. | I am sure that you were tired enough when you reached home. |
| Bha mi, ach cha bhithinn a chòir cho sgîth mur b'e gu'n deachaidh mi air seachran 's a' mhonadh. | I was, but I should not have been nearly so tired were it not that I went astray in the moor. |
| 'D e chuir air seachran sibh ? | What caused you to go astray ? |
| Ceò dùmhail a dhùin mu m' thimchioll. | A thick mist that closed round me. |
| An do choisich sibh air ar n-aghaidh tro' 'n cheò ? | Did you walk on through the mist ? |
| Choisich fad trì cheithreamhan na h-uaire, tha mi cinnteach, gus | I did for three quarters of an hour, I am sure, till I came back at |

an d'thàinig mi mu dheireadh air m'ais a dh'ionnsuidh an àite as an d'fhalbh mi.

last to the place from which I started.

'N uair a thig an ceò air neach 's a' mhonadh 's e 'ghliocas fuireach far am bheil e gus an sgaoil e.

When one is overtaken by the mist in the moor it is his wisdom to remain where he is till it disperses.

Rinn mi sin mu dheireadh. 'Am shìneadh air an fhraoch bhadanach, ghorm, air mo shuaineadh 'am bhreacan dùbh-ghlas, thàinig na rannan sin le Donnachadh Bàn 'am chuimhne :—

I did so at last. While reclining on the bushy and blue heather, wrapped in my dark-grey plaid, these verses by Duncan Ban came into my memory:—

" 'S mithich teàrnadh do na gleannaibh
O'n tha gruaimich air na beannaibh,
'S ceathach duinte mu na meallaibh,
A' cur dallaidh air ar léirsinn.

" It is time to descend to the glens,
Since there is gloom on the bens,
And mist enveloping the hills,
Blinding our vision.

Bi 'dh sinn beò 'an dòchas ro mhath
Gu 'm bi 'chùis na's fheàrr an ath là,
Gu'm bi gaoth, 'us grian, 'us talamh,
Mar bu mhath leinn air na sléibhtibh."

We shall live in good hope
That matters will be more favourable the next day,
That the wind, the sun, and the ground,
Will be as we could wish on the mountains."